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Archæological Journal.



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The Newbury District Field Club
The Oxford Architectural & Historical Society
The Oxfordshire Archæological Society
The Oxford University Antiquarian Society
The Ladies' Brass-rubbing Society of Oxford.

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EDITED BY

REV. P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A

*Rector of Barkham; Fellow of R. Hist. Soc.; Hon. Sec. of
the Berks Archæological Society.*

AND

JOHN HAUTENVILLE COPE.

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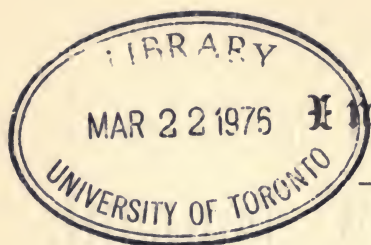
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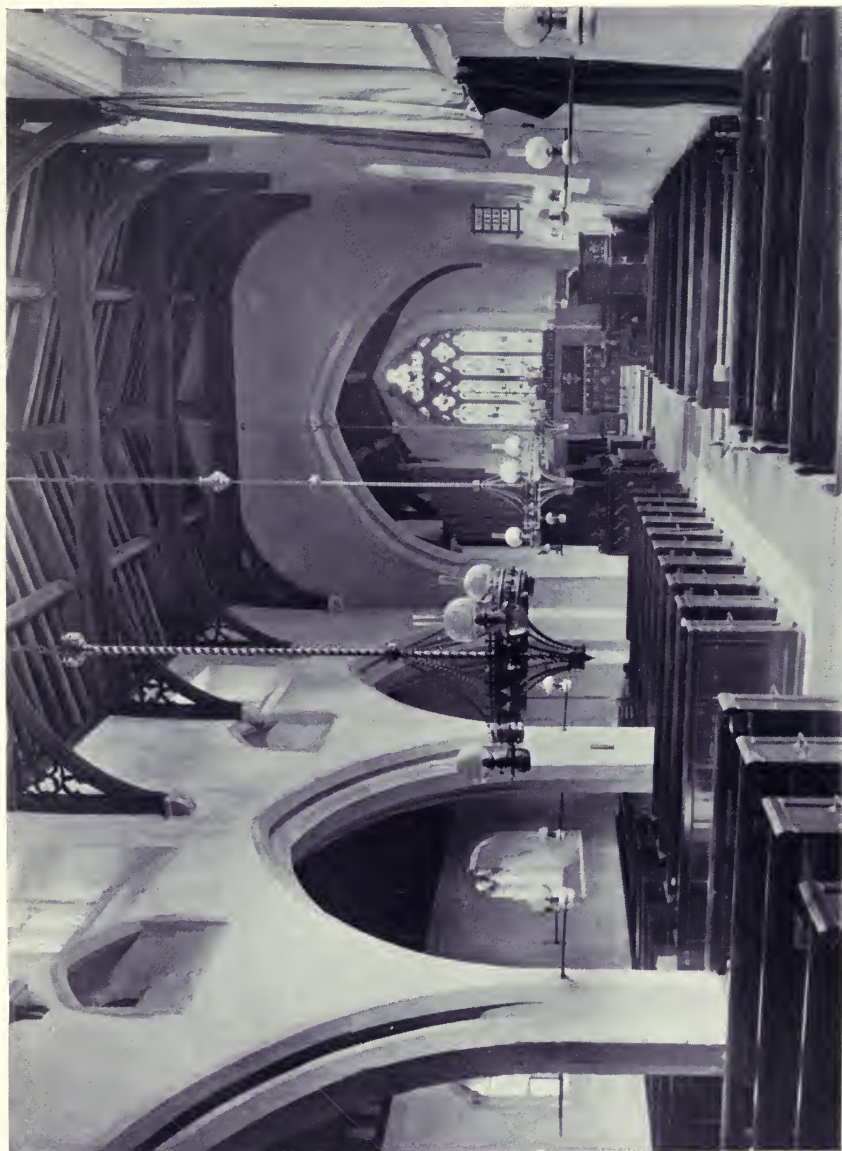
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Fig. 1. View from the South East



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Fig. 2. Interior looking East

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH

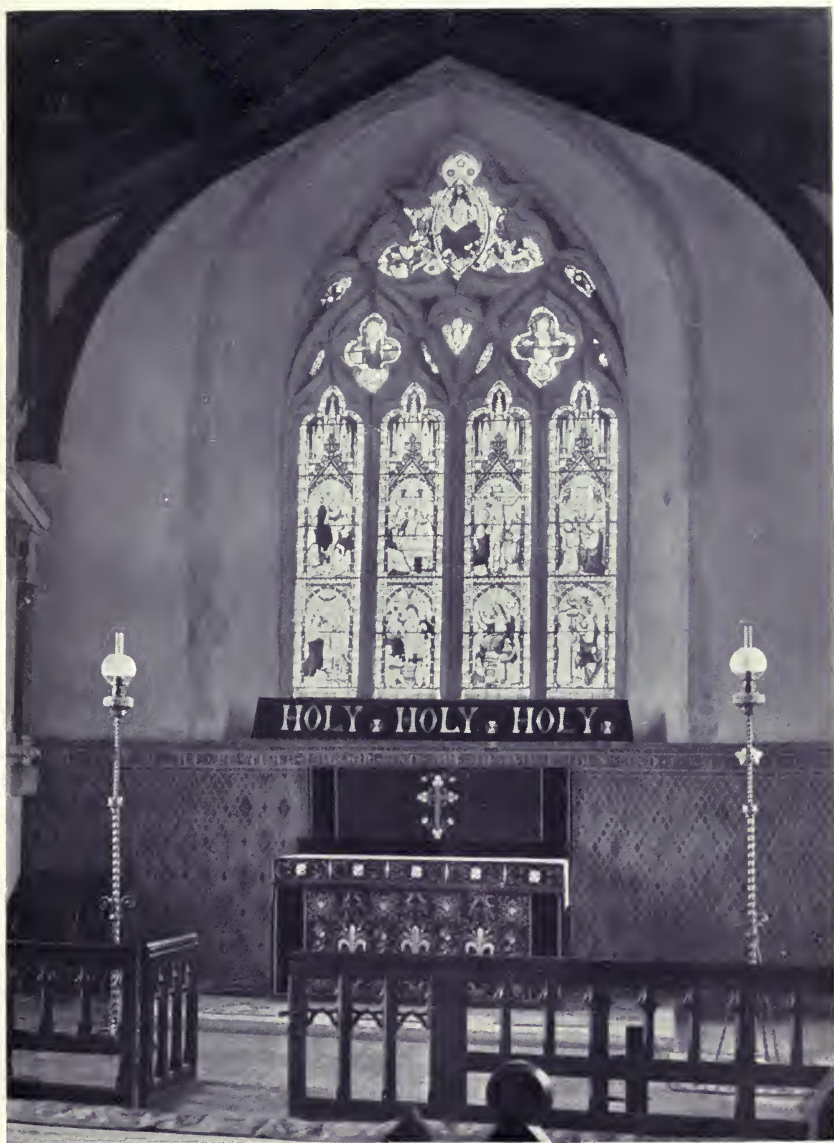


Fig. 3. The East Window

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STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 4. Piscina and Reliquary

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 5. Brass to Roger Campedene

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH

JOHN HEIGHAM ESQ LATE MARSHALL OF THE
HALL TO KINGE JAMES & KINGE CHARLES
SONNE OF IOHN HEIGHAM ESQ OF GIFFORDE
IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLKE DEPARTED
THIS LIFE THE TWENTITH DAY OF MAY. 1652
HEE WAS A MAN RESPECTIVE TO HIS SUPERIORS
COURTEOUS KINDE AND LOVINGE TO HIS
INFERIORS AND AFFABLE TO ALL MEN
AND A GOOD BENEFACTOR TO THE POORE
OF THE PARRISH OF STANFORD WHERE HEE
LIVED AND WHERE HEE NOW
IS INTERRED.

Not that hee needed monument of Stone
For his well gotten fame to rest vppon
But this was Reard to testefie that hee
Lives in their loues that yet suruiuing hee
For unto vertue whoe first raised his name
Hee left the preservation of the fame
And to Posterity remaine it shall
When Brass and Marble monuments shall fall

Fig. 6. Epitaph to John Heigham





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Fig. 7. Interior looking West

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 8. Squint and Steps to Roodloft





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Fig. 9. The Nave Arcade



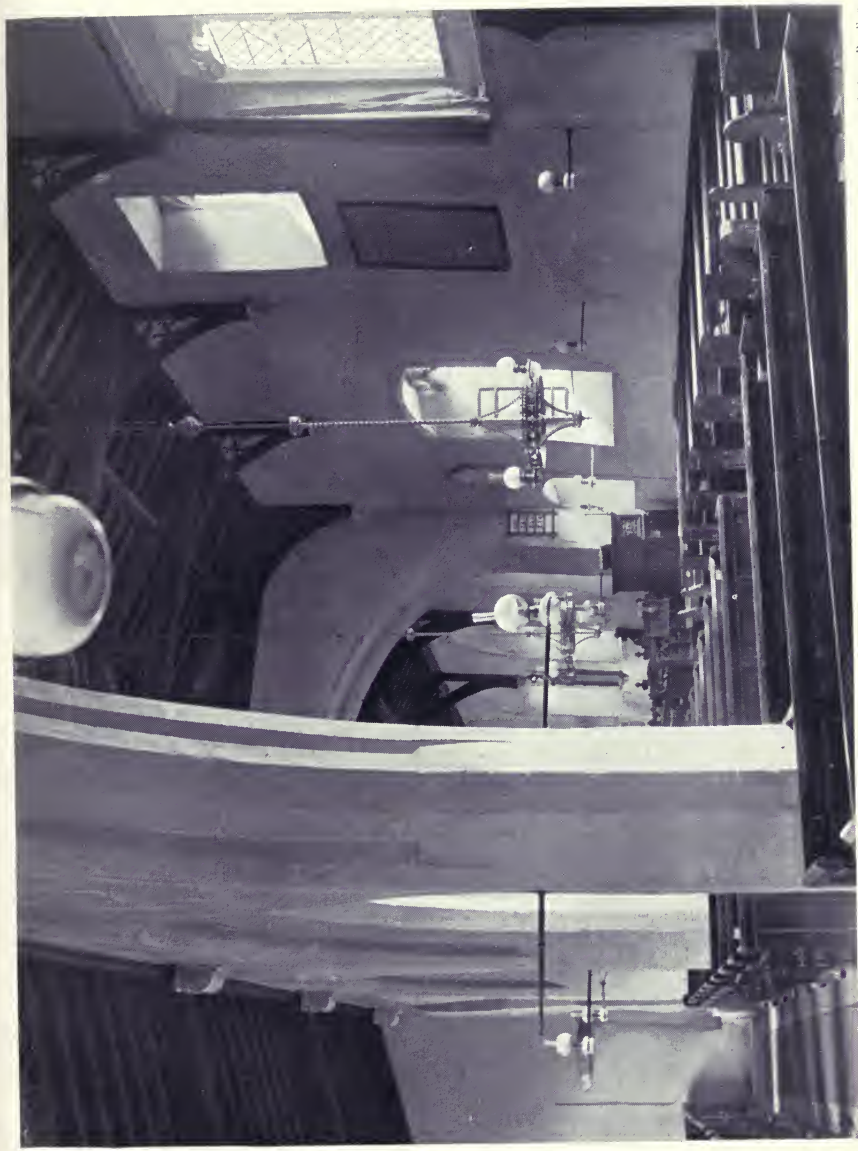


Fig. 10. Windows, South Side of Nave



STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 11. The Tower Arch



STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 12. The Font



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Fig. 13. Exterior, South Side

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 14. South Porch and Tower

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 15. North Doorway

STANFORD IN THE VALE CHURCH



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Fig. 16. Tower, &c., from the North West



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stanford-in-the-Vale, Hatford and Shellingford and the Chapels of Goosey and Baulking.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 26th, 1914.)

FOLLOWING the custom which I have now inaugurated for the past few years, I propose to bring under the notice of our Members another group of our ancient Berkshire Churches and Chapels, which, I venture to think, are not so well known as they should be even to the residents in our own County. This paper may fairly be considered as a corollary to the one I read last year, as I have selected the same district, namely that between Faringdon and Wantage, situate in the fertile Vale of the White Horse, and containing some of the richest agricultural land to be found in our County. It is not to be wondered at that many evidences still remain to attest to the munificence of former landowners, whose very names are unknown, but who no doubt dedicated a large proportion of their prosperity to the building and beautifying of these Temples of God in their midst. How sad it is to reflect on the wanton mischief which has been perpetrated both with regard to the

structures and furniture of the Churches, on which our predecessors expended so much of their genius and pious attention in days gone by. As in the former papers, so to-day, it will not be possible to elucidate the history of the several parishes. There are few local traditions, and the information to be gleaned from the accessible written authorities is most meagre. We shall have therefore to content ourselves with the most superficial details as to the Lords of the Manor and other prominent residents and their doings, and mainly confine ourselves to a description of the architectural features of the several edifices. We will, as usual, consider we are driving round to visit this group of Churches, and will make our first halt at the large and important village of Stanford-in-the-Vale. The Manor was from the period of the Norman Conquest in the hands of the great family of Ferrars, Earl of Derby, and in their time a Market was granted to this town by a charter of Henry III. in 1230, together with a fair on the festival of St. Dionysius, both of which have long been discontinued. The estates belonging to this Earldom were all forfeited in 1266, and it is supposed that the Manor of Stanford was granted to the Clares, Earls of Gloucester, who were possessed of it in 1290. From them it passed by heirs female to the Despenchers, Beauchamps, and Nevilles; and became vested in the Crown by the marriage of Anne Neville, daughter of the Earl of Warwick, with the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards King Richard III. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was held by the Fettiplace family, who continued to possess it for a considerable time. So much we learn from Lysons in the *Magna Britannia*. We shall be able to point out in our description of the Church, evidence of the influence of these families. The Manor House stood to the south of the Church and some ancient buildings remain, including a very fine stone barn, with two porches and good timber roof.

The Parish Church, one of the most interesting in the County, is dedicated to St. Dionysius or Denis, the Patron saint of France, who is still commemorated in our Calendar on October 9th. His history is somewhat involved, and in early times he was wrongly identified with Dionysius the Areopagite. He was sent from Rome to found the Church in Gaul, and came with his two companions Rusticus and Eleutherius to Lutetia Parisiorum, the city destined to become the capital of France. Here, according to tradition, many attempts were made to bring about his martyrdom. He was cast into a fiery furnace, but emerged unharmed. He was crucified, but preached to his persecutors from the cross, and finally with his two

companions was beheaded. He was even then able to walk, carrying his head in his hands, to the spot where the great Abbey of St. Denis now stands, and is thus depicted on some of the Norfolk screens and elsewhere in England. The date of his martyrdom was about A.D. 286. It is a singular coincidence that the one other Church in Berkshire dedicated in his honour is that of Stanford Dingley, nearly thirty miles distant. I cannot find any connecting link, either through ownership or otherwise, between the two Stanfords which can explain their dedication to this somewhat uncommon Saint. The only other Church in the Diocese with the same dedication is that of Northmoor in Oxfordshire.

The Church of Stanford-in-the-Vale (Fig. 1) is a fine and spacious edifice, being 122 feet in length by 34½ in breadth across the nave and aisle. It consists of a west tower, nave and north aisle with south and north porches, and chancel with the old sacristy on the north side. The earliest remaining portions are the north and south doorways, which are obtusely pointed Transitional Norman, of near the end of the 12th century. The tower seems to have been commenced early in the 13th century, and to have been carried on rather slowly, the middle stage being late in the Early English style, circ. 1240, and the upper about 50 or 60 years later. Considerable alterations took place about 1260-1270 when the nave arcade and chancel arch were erected. Most of the windows are of very fine decorated character of the early part of the 14th century, the sacristy and north porch being of this date. Somewhat late in the 15th century the nave roof and clerestory were constructed, the south porch was built, the rood-loft staircase was inserted and some other alterations made, which will be duly noted during our perambulation of the Church.

Let us now commence our description starting as usual in the interior of the Chancel. (Fig. 2.) The east window is a very beautiful example of the best decorated period. (Fig. 3.) It is of four lights, the lower portion being divided into two two-light arched compartments with a quatrefoil in the head, the upper part is filled with a large trefoil having bold cusping of the type which has been denominated Kentish tracery, and is a very rich example of this style. Within the quatrefoils is some ancient glass, with figures of two cherubim with feet on wheels. On the north side of the Chancel is one two-light decorated window with quatrefoil in the head, and on the south are two two-light decorated windows of similar character, and then at the west end a beautiful three-light

window of the same type as the east window with three trefoils in the head, two and one, all with the rich Kentish tracery cusping. Within the quatrefoils in the heads of the two east windows on this side is some rich decorative glass with bordering of leaves, etc., on a ruby ground enclosing a circular medallion surrounded by diamond quarries with the ivy leaf pattern. The canopies remain to the main lights with numerous pinnacles and rich ruby colouring. In the western window within the upper trefoils are three armorial shields. In the top one gules three lions passant guardant or for England. In the lower east gules 10 bezants or roundels 4, 3, 2 and 1 or for Zouch, and in the lower west, or three chevronels gules for Clare. The Chancel roof is low pitched but does not appear to be old. In the usual place in the north wall is a double aumbrey with two openings separated by a plain impost, and the groove in front for the former doors. Facing (fig. 4) it in the south wall is a very remarkable piscina and tabernacle niche above. The piscina has a projecting basin supported on a large bracket, a stone shelf, and shouldered arched canopy. This supports a beautiful stone tabernacle probably a reliquary. It is in the form of three sides of an octagon standing out from the wall, with small angle buttresses capped by pinnacles and richly moulded canopies with crocketing and finials within each compartment. The upper cornice is embattled. There is an oblong opening in the lower part of the central panel, and there can be little doubt that this was designed to contain a relic, which was an object of reverence and possibly of pilgrimage to worshippers in the Church. There is a tradition that a finger of St. Denis was either preserved here or lent periodically by the Monks of Abingdon Abbey, who possessed property in the hamlet of Goosey in this Parish. There is a somewhat similar niche over the centre of the reredos at Fyfield Church, near Abingdon. Within the sill of the window to the west of the piscina is a plain sedile. On the north side of the Chancel, behind the organ is the original entrance to the sacristy now blocked up. On the Chancel floor at the east end on the north side is a very fine brass (fig. 5) with the bust of a priest life size. He has the tonsure and curly hair, and is fully vested, with the amice, open sleeves to the vestment, and hands clasped on his breast. On a plate below is the following inscription :—

Hic jacet Rogus Campedene quondam

amē

Rector isti eccle qui obiit tcio die mensis

Junū A°dni M°ccc°lxxx°viii° cui' aie ppiciet dē.

Here lies Roger Campedene, sometime Rector of this Church, who died on the third day of the month of June in the year of our Lord one thousand three hundred and ninety eight on whose soul God have mercy, amen.

On four shields at the corners are the emblems of the Evangelists, viz. : SS. John and Matthew, much mutilated above, and SS. Mark and Luke below.

On the floor are numerous ledger stones. The following black marble (fig. 6) slab is interesting and the inscription in capital letters is in excellent preservation. When Ashmole visited the Church, "it was laid over a raised monument erected against the aforesaid south wall of the Chancel." This monument has disappeared. The inscription reads as follows :—

JOHN HEIGHAM ESQ LATE MARSHALL OF THE
HALL TO KINGE JAMES & KINGE CHARLES
SONNE OF JOHN HEIGHAM ESQ OF GIFFORDS
IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLKE DEPARTED
THIS LIFE THE TWENTIETH DAY OF MAY 1632
HEE WAS A MAN RESPECTIVE TO HIS SUPERIORS
CURTEOUS KINDE AND LOVINGE TO HIS
INFERIORS AND AFFABLE TO ALL MEN
AND A GOOD BENEFACITOR TO THE POORE
OF THE PARRISH OF STANFORD WHERE HEE
LIVED AND WHERE HEE NOW
IS INTERRED.

Not that hee needed monument of stone
For his well gotten fame to rest upon
But this was Rear'd to testefie that hee
Lives in their loves that yet surviving bee
For unto vertue whoe first rais'd his name
Hee left the preservation of the same
And to Posterity remaine it shall
When Brass and Marble monuments shall fall.

On the south wall of the Chancel is a large white marble tablet to Capt. Francis Knollys, nephew to the Earl of Banbury, whose sumptuous tomb still remains in Rotherfield Greys Church, near Henley. There is a long inscription given in full in Ashmole's History and Antiquities, which informs us that the said Francis Knollys was twice married, that he had the command of the Trainee Band of the Abingdon division, and was here interred the 4th of August, 1640.

On the floor on north side are ledger stones, one with inscription to Mary, wife of Edward Jennings, died 1715, and shield a chevron between three lanterns, and (2) to Lawrence Lane, Rector, died

1699. On the north wall at east end is a large mural tablet with two gilded cherubs and armorial shield in the head with the following bearings: arg 2 chevronels az. It has the following epitaph, fully setting out the virtues of the deceased ladies:—

Underneath
Lye interr'd in one Grave
Elizabeth y^e wife of Walter Tyrrell Esq
Who died May 5th 1731, Aged 62.
And Mary their Daughter greatly beloved
who died Oct^r 27th 1728 aged 24.
Both whose Memories
deserve to be transmitted to Posterity
with a becoming Esteem
if unaffected Piety towards God
a decent Reverence to things sacred
and an obliging Carriage towards all
are Qualities worthy Esteem.
The former discharg'd y^e respective Duties
of a Wife and a Mother
in such a manner, as to make her Death
a Loss to be greatly lamented
by her surviving Relatives;
and y^e Conduct of y^e latter
as a Daughter, a Sister, and a Friend
was so dutiful affectionate and engaging,
that her Memory to those she convers'd with
will be ever dear.
To mention nothing more They were both of y^m
Friends to y^e Communion of y^e Church of Engl^d
Friends of y^e Poor
Enemies to no one.

On the north side of the Chancel arch is an oblique passage to the north aisle, similar to the one at Charney Bassett. There has clearly been a squint here in the 13th century, and a small shaft supports two segmental-headed arches in the north wall. The passage was probably constructed when the rood loft steps were added, and these and a curious projection with a small window opening, supported on a large bracket, still remain on the north side of the Chancel arch. (Fig. 7). The Sacristy has a new entrance from the passage. It has a two-light square-headed window within a segmental-headed containing arch both on the east and north sides, of the decorated period, and is of the same date as the windows of the Chancel to which it is attached. The entrance to the roodloft (fig. 8) is through a four centred late 15th century doorway, the stone steps still remain but the upper doorway has been blocked up. The Chancel arch is wide and rather low segmental-headed with two

plain chamfered orders dying into the jambs and continued without imposts to the ground. It is of rather uncommon design and probably of early decorated date or circ. 1270. Between nave and north aisle are (fig. 9) three arches of the same date and similar character dying into, and resting on, plain octagonal piers. Above, or rather between, them are three small trefoil-headed clerestory windows within large widely splayed segmental-headed openings. They are also of early decorated date. The present flat roof dates from the late 15th or early 16th century. It has ornamental carving in the spandrels between the trusses and wall brackets. These rest on a series of stone corbels, with quaint human and animal heads, three roses and other devices.

On the south side of the nave near the east end is a trefoil-headed single low side window within semi-circular containing arch of the early decorated period. On this south side (fig. 10) are four windows, namely, (1) a two-light square-headed decorated window, (2) high up in the wall one single light trefoil-headed clerestory window, (3) a large four-light square-headed late perpendicular window. In the smaller compartments in the head are small medallions in contemporary glass, with the sacred monograms ihc xpc. the word "lady" and some other initials not easy to decipher. This window was no doubt inserted when the south porch was built, (4) a two-light decorated window with a quatrefoil in the head. In the north aisle are three windows on the north side, the eastern one of three-lights, the other two of two-lights, all square-headed within segmental-headed containing arches. At the west end are three trefoil-headed lancets, also within a segmental-headed containing arch. These are all of early decorated date. The tower arch is (fig. 11) massive Early English with three recessed chamfered orders supported on an undercut abacus, with plain jambs. Above is a large hatchment with the Royal Arms. In west wall of tower is a small trefoil-headed lancet. The font (fig. 12) under the tower is of wood, hexagonal, and Jacobean, with very nice carving on the panels of the bowl and lower portion, which are all of one size. There are roses and lilies alternately on the bowl, and scrolls below. There is a pyramidal cover of the same date, which is also nicely carved. The pulpit in the south-east corner of the nave is of the same date with richly carved Jacobean panels and cornice, only four of the sides now remain.

On the exterior of the Church we note that it is mainly built of the local stone, but the nave and tower are covered with rough cast.

There is a late decorated priest's doorway on the north of the Chancel with undercut hoodmould and small roll moulding and two quarter round mouldings with deep hollow between, round the arch and down the jambs. All the Chancel windows have dripstones or hoodmoulds except the west on the south side. (Fig. 13.) Let into the south wall of the Chancel is a large stone with a very roughly carved sundial incised on it, no doubt a relic of the earlier Church. The sundial was within a circular border, but this has been carefully hacked away. The low side window on the south of the nave has a hoodmould, the other windows have not. The nave is embattled, as is also the south porch (fig. 14), which is of late 15th century date. It has a four centred outer arch with square label terminating on shields. On these are the ragged staff impaling the rose with fetterlock above. The position of the arms is reversed on each side, so that the rose and fetterlock should come on the inner side. It is supposed that this porch was built in 1472 and other alterations made to the Church to commemorate the marriage of Anne Neville, daughter of the Earl of Warwick, and widow of Edward Prince of Wales and son of King Henry VI., to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards King Richard III. She was at this time only nineteen years of age, and the arms on the shields are a record of this alliance. Within, the porch has had a stone groined roof, but this has gone, though the groining shafts still remain at the angles. There is a two-light window on east and west sides. The porch has been utilised for the heating apparatus and the interesting south doorway has been partially concealed by this and the roof of the later porch. It is obtusely pointed transitional Norman with an outer course of the elliptic arched, then a hollow and bold angle roll, supported on a large grooved and chamfered abacus, low cylindrical shafts and bold scalloped capitals. There is a plain inner order with chamfered angle to arch and jambs. The date is about 1190. There are four low buttresses at intervals on south side of the nave and chancel. The north porch, now the principal entrance is late decorated or early perpendicular. It has a parvise above. The outer doorway has an undercut label and chamfered arch and jambs. Above is a small window for the parvise. Within are two-light east and west windows. The north doorway (fig. 15) is transitional Norman, obtusely pointed, with half round and hollow on the hoodmould, and then a bold roll with small fillet band on the angle and hollow on either side. This rests on a massive chamfered abacus with low cylindrical shafts, and large capitals enriched

with the stiff leaved foliage on the east and the acanthus on the west side. There is a plain chamfered inner arch and jambs. In the porch wall are inserted portions of three stone coffin lids, one with a Maltese Cross dates probably from the 12th century, the other two from early in the 13th century.

The tower is lofty (fig. 16) but somewhat narrow in proportion to its height. The upper stage has been added. It is embattled and with nice two-light decorated belfry windows on each face. To the next stage is a stringcourse and Early English corbel table, and on each face a two-light window with a quatrefoil within a circle in the head. In the upper part of the lower stage on north, west and south, is a trefoil-headed lancet, and on the lower level on west another trefoil-headed lancet with a head above. The tower seems to be of about the same date as that at Harwell.

(To be continued.)

Bishops' Transcripts.

By the Rev. Canon Oldfield, D.D.

WHAT are known as Bishops' Transcripts are copies of the entries in the Parish Registers sent annually to the Diocesan Registry, in obedience to the order of the Constitutions of 1597, Canon 70, and the Act of 1812. Peculiars did not send their transcripts to the Diocesan Registry until after 1812.

The Oxford Diocesan Registry has 25,001 transcripts from 246 parishes and chapelries in the Archdeaconry of Oxford, all carefully endorsed and arranged. Ninety-nine parishes begin in the 17th Cent. 25 of them in 1639, the earliest date ; but there is no general succession of copies before 1720, and the latest date is 1906. Of these 25,001, 2,344 are on paper, the rest on parchment of every possible size, and shape, and substance, from the coarsest skins to the finest vellum, until 1812, when a prescribed form came into use. In many cases the backs of old deeds are used for the purpose ; Bladon (1750) and Clanfield (1753) use portions of the Manor Rolls of those Manors, the former dated 1679 ; St. Peter le Bailey, Oxford

(1786) uses a portion of a page out of an old Burials Register ; North Aston (1744 & 1751) portions of the Vicar's Letters of Deacon's Orders conferred on him in 1707 by Bishop Bull ; Tadmerton (1760) is on the back of a Will ; while Broughton (1765) is on " A Terrar of the halfe Quarterne Land purchased by Richard Fretton of . . " Those previous to 1813, 13396 in number, contain records of 183,944 baptisms, 138,201 burials, and 43,806 marriages, or a total of 365,951 entries to the end of 1812.

The object of these transcripts is to act as a check upon any possible tampering with the Parish Registers, and they have been found effectual for this purpose in suits at law, and are always liable to be called for in such cases. They also frequently supply gaps in the Registers, as well as supplementary information.

The measure of time varies with different parishes, and with different periods in the same parish. Sometimes the year is reckoned from Easter to Easter, at others from Lady Day to Lady Day, or the Calendar year is taken, or the period between one Visitation and the next. The Constitutions of 1597 fixed Easter, Canon 70 Lady Day and the Act of 1812 Dec. 31 as the limits.

They were required to be attested by the Minister and Churchwardens ; hence such notes as the following :—

Broughton, 1763.—N.B. The Rector not being at Broughton its humbly hop'd the preceding acct will be accepted, being faithfully taken from the Parish Registers.

Toot Baldon, 1783.—N.B. No Clergyman and Neither of the Churchwardens could write. N.W.Regr.

South Weston, 1723.—This Account from John Jackson Rector, who desires to be excused for non-Attendance by Reason of Colick-Pains.

Westcot Barton, 1765.—Mr. Shepherd (the Curate) has ye Ghout and cannot wright.

But many of the transcripts are unsigned, and many more by a Churchwarden only, sometimes by the parish Clerk only, who often makes the copy, as at Minster Lovell, where several at the beginning of the 19th Cent. are described as

' taken by John Dalton, Clark of the parrish, as a copy from the Holely Regestr.'

while St. Thomas', Oxford has (1757)

' A Coupey Tacken from the Orignel Rugestr of Sant Thomas Parish of beath and buerls and Mariges.'

" beath " is used several times as the spelling for births.

As the Visitation was the time for making presentments we sometimes get these recorded on the Transcripts :

Alvescot, 1734.—A List of names of residents over 16 who did not communicate at Easter.

Broughton, 1680.—Our Curch and Curchyarde is in good repaire we have noe presentments.

Lower Heyford, 1681.—Richard Day, sen. to be presented for being absent from divine services and refusing to pay the clerkes wages. John Marsh, jun. to be presented for being absent from divine service, keeping the quakers meetings, refusing to pay the clerkes wages and to have his son baptized.

Rotherfield Peppard, 1745.—Moses and Aaron twin bastards (owned by William Brown and begot on ye Body of a Sister of his late Wife's for which he was presented last Visitation, but noe Notice has been hitherto taken thereof) bap. 26 Dec. Other "incestuous" children are born of these parents in 1747 & 1749.

South Weston, 1726.—No dissenters in this Parish,

Swyncombe, 1640.—Communicants of both Sexe in the whole Parish, 100.

Among local notes are the following :

Ambrosden, 1765.—The Rev. Mr Thomas Cockerill, Vicar, a worthy good man, bur. May 17.

Bodicote, 1731.—Paid 10s. for coming over to perform the office of burial in the chappel and 6s. 8d. for breaking the ground | Paid 20s. for preaching and performing the office here and 6s. 8d. to the Vicar for liberty to break the ground | These four had no Christian burial for the yard they say is not holy ground.

Brightwell Baldwin, 1747.—The reverent Mr. Curants, rector, bur. Oct. 6, aged 48. [His name was Allen Corrance.]

Burford, 1758.—190 persons died of the small-pox.

Charlbury, 1773.—A Travlers childe died at the Pest House.

Charlton-on-Otmoor, 1758.—Ruth Bartlett, aged it was supposed 105 years, bur.

Cuddesdon, 1726.—Anne, d. of the Right Rev. the Lord Bp, of Oxford, bap.

Great Rollright, 1796, 1800.—deaths from small-pox, " from the pest-house."

Henley, 1792.—Mr. Robert Eling, aged 74, having been 52 years Writing Master of the Free School, bur.

Cath. Fullocks, aged 36, died in childbed with four children born alive.

Lewknor, 1755.—Maher Shalal Hash-Baz, s. of Adam and Mary Waklen, bap.

Oddington, 1729.—Richard Cook, a beggar boy run away from his Master a Brushmaker in Brumageham, bur.

Oxford, St. Thomas, 1679.—Thomas Turffrey, of Shilton, Berks a debter dyeing in ye Castle, bur.

South Newington, 1729.—William Buckingham of the Church House, bur. | 1760.—Robert Davis a traveling chimney sweeper from Aldersgate Parish, London.

Echoes of historical events :

Wootton, 1678.—Souldier-like-like Jones.

Dorchester, 1798.—Rev. Mich. Thoumite Descoupons, French priest, D.D., Archdeacon, Grand Vicar of the Diocese of Dol, Brittany, aged 62, bur.

Tackley, 1804.—John Hoare, a soldier who had served in Egypt, bur.

The Oxford transcripts have the terms "batteler" and "aledraper."

Corruptions of place-names :

Barford St. Michael, 1742.—addressed "For Dr. Barron in Sinmery Hall Lane."

S. Newington, 1724.—Wm Clift of St Toles, Oxford.

Clerical Schoolmasters :

John Russell, Rector of Wilcot and Schoolmaster of Swinbrook, d. 1774.

Lionel Lampet, Rector of Pusey and Schoolmaster of Aston, d. 1795.

Mr. Goodman, Vicar of Black Bourton, who (apparently early in the 17th Cent.), built a schoolroom "when he kept many boarders in the Vicarage," also a malthouse, carthouse, sheephouse &c., "for his own convenience when he held his great farm at Kencott." These were burnt down at a later period, and in 1681 the then Vicar petitions to be excused from rebuilding them on account of the smalness of the living, not exceeding £40 per an., which petition is granted in 1686.

Uncommon names among the clergy signing the transcripts :

Agutter, W., cur. Chislehampton, 1781-3.

Alt, Just, Rect. Mixbury, 1761-1801.

Boham, Hu : Rect. Harpsden, 1685.

Brideoake, John, Rect. Swerford, 1722-32.

„ R., Min. Gt. Tew, 1731-4.

Charnelhouse, Alex., Rect. Salford, 1680-6.

Churchley, Jos., cur. Salford, 1722-5.

Docwra, Wm., cur. Stratton Audley, 1721-7.

- Dockwray, Thos. Clarveato, Vic. Chip. Norton, 1749-57.
 Dumaresq, Daniel, cur. Merton, 1744-5.
 Ella, John Gaskwith, cur. Tadmarton, 1803-7.
 Ernle, Ed., Rect. Harpsden, 1767-9.
 I'on, Launcelot, cur. Leafield, 1804-6.
 Knail, Wm., cur. Hampton Poyle, 1757-60.
 Laserre, James, bur. at Deddington, 1759.
 LaTour, Peniston, cur. Tadmarton, 1794-8.
 Lernoult, Fran., min. Clifton Hampden, 1765-6 ; cur.
 Swyncombe, 1767-71.
 Mounstwen, Hender, min. Hook Norton, 1754.
 Poate, Daniel, cur. Cuddesdon, 1763-6.
 Polley, G., cur. Over Worton, 1729-31.
 Prawde, Hen., Vic. Gt. Tew, 1669-70.
 Priaulx, Peter, min. Fritwell, 1728-9.
 Question, Aug., cur. Merton, 1730-1.
 Sarrande, J., cur. Kidlington, 1766-85.
 Schoen, G. L., D.D., Vic. Kirtlington, 1796-9.
 Speidell, Thos., min. Northmoor, 1807-11.
 Tesh, J., Vic. Yarnton, 1781-3.
 Tookie, Paulo, Vic. Chalgrove, 1756-81.
 Trewecke, Geo., cur. Fritwell, 1812.
 Twopeny, Rd., cur. Cuddesdon, 1781.
 Twynihoe, C., Min. Wolvercote, 1756-9.
 Vatas, Peter, cur. Stratton Audley, 1745-7.
 Whorwood, E., cur & Rect. Holton, 1722-32.
 ,, Thos. Hen., Vic. Headington, 1804-12.

COWPER'S SUNDIAL.—It is not generally known that the sundial of the poet Cowper now marks time in a Berkshire garden. In 1786 the poet went to reside at the Lodge at Weston Underwood, the seat of Sir G. Throckmorton. In 1780, during one of his periods of melancholia, the poet was specially irritated by the clocks of the house not keeping correct time, and to humour him, his cousin John Johnson—Johnny of Norfolk—sent him a dial, which, on a stone pedestal, the work of Anderson the stone mason and his once drawing-master, was placed on the lawn of Weston Underwood Lodge. At the sale of this estate a few years ago by Sir W. Throckmorton, the sundial was cased up and sent to Buckland, the Berkshire seat of the family. Here the dial remained in the carpenter's shop of the mansion until the sale of the Buckland estate, when Sir W. Throckmorton presented it to Mrs. Eyston of that village, and it now adorns the garden of their residence "The Cottage," Buckland.—W. H. HALLAM, Lockinge.



History of the Parish of Beenham.

By Mary Sharp.

CHAPTER II.

VICARS AND PATRONS.

THE great Revolution which goes by the name of the Reformation, of which the date may be fixed in 1539, the year of the suppression of the Monasteries, caused a shock which must have been felt through the length and breadth of the land. The vast possessions, granted during preceding centuries to religious houses, everywhere changed owners, and from the easy-going monks, to whose rule their tenants had become accustomed, the land with its tenantry, as well as the advowsons of countless livings, became the property of laymen, often *nouveux riches*, in whose eyes they were in many cases merely looked upon as objects of barter wherewith to increase their wealth. So, at all events, as will be seen by the following narrative, it happened at Beenham, and henceforth the manors, the advowson of the living and also the Rectorial tithes (these last passing into the hands of lay impropiators) suffered from frequent changes of ownership, which could not have been otherwise than detrimental to the best interests of the population.

The advowson of the Living, together with the Abbey Manor and the Rectorial Tithes were granted to Sir Henry, afterwards Lord Norreys of Rycote. Of the Manor and the Tithes more will be said in a later chapter.

The new patron had to wait some time before he could avail himself of his privilege, for Henry Olyver, the last nominee of the Abbot and monks, retained the incumbency till his death in 1555. He lived on through the reign of Edward VI. into that of Mary Tudor. We do not know how he managed to steer his way in peace; that he succeeded in doing so seems clear from existing evidence.

The following is the list of the Post-Reformation Vicars of Beenham and their patrons. Where these last are not mentioned, the month date being also omitted, it must be understood that the names have been taken from the Parish Registers or elsewhere,

there being no corresponding entry of the institution in the Diocesan Records.

DATE.	PATRON.	VICAR.
13th March, 1555	Henry Norreys, Esq.	John Horwood, on the death of Henry Olyver.
	" "	Robert Bembricke.
22nd November, 1564	" "	Richard Parker, on resignation of Robert Bembrick.
1611	<i>Thos. Earl of Kelly</i>	William Elton, by death of Richard Parker.
1634	<i>Sir Peter Vanlore</i>	Samuel Bofford.
1645	" "	Philip Goddard.
30th April, 1686	Nathan Knight (? Wright)	Richard Simeon, by death of Philip Goddard.
2nd February, 1686-7	" "	John Willcox, by cession of Richard Simeon.
1687		Robert Humphreys.
1690	Mr. Blgrave (Lysons' History)	Philip Goddard.
12th July, 1731	Thomas Goddard (Apothecary, London)	Thomas Horton, by death of Philip Goddard.
22nd June, 1733	Mary Forrester, widow (So entered in the Sarum Dio. Reg., but in a note attached to a Copy of Dr. Stevens' Will it is stated that Mr. Horton, Mrs. Mary Stevens' father, presented Thos. Stackhouse see below.)	Thos. Stackhouse, M.A., by cession of Thos. Horton.
20th February, 1753	Thomas Horton, of Hampton, Middlesex, Clerk	Francis Ayscough, by death of Thomas Stackhouse.
12th January, 1757	Thomas Horton, Clerk, Rector, Hascomb, Surrey	Thomas Stevens, M.A., by death of Francis Ayscough.
14th March, 1788	Mary Stevens, of Beenham, widow	John Douglas, D.D., by death of Thos. Stevens.
22nd June, 1808	Mary Stevens, of Midgham. Berks, widow	Robert Barkers, M.A., by death of John Douglas.
1st February, 1810	" "	John Bushnell, B.A., by resignation of Robert Barker.
1839	Mrs. Sarah Bushnell, widow	Henry Cherry, by death of John Bushnell.
1842	" "	William Bushnell, M.A., by death of Henry Cherry.
May, 1855	" "	Thomas Hext Bushnell, M.A., by death of William Bushnell.
October, 1900	Thos. Hext Bushnell	Robert Dunn, B.A., by resignation of Thos. H. Bushnell.
October, 1907	" "	Gilbert Duffus Sutherland Bushnell, B.A., by resignation of Robert Dunn.

Lord Norreys of Rycote, as he then was, may have presented to the Vicarage three times, though his name and the presentation of Robert Bembricke are not recorded in the Diocesan Register. It is, however, there stated that he did present Richard Parker on the resignation of Robert Bembricke, November 22, 1564; such irregularities in the entries are found in almost every case during that troubled time of change and uncertainty.

Lord Norreys died in 1601, and neither the names of the three next vicars nor of the patrons are given in the Sarum Register, but we learn from the Parish Registers that William Elton succeeded on the death of Richard Parker in 1611, and was followed in 1634 by Samuel Bofford, and in 1645 by Philip Goddard. In 1622 the Earl of Kelly, who had married Elizabeth grand-daughter of Lord Norreys of Rycote, received a grant of the manor and advowson of Beenham; and later the Inquisition Post Mortem, after the death of Sir Peter Vanlore of Tilehurst (1627), informs us that he owned, among other possessions in Beenham, the advowson of the living, and it seems probable that these are the names lacking from the list of Patrons between 1611 and 1634-45 (entered above in *Italics*).

Of the early vicars of Beenham whose appointments have been mentioned, very little is known except what can be gleaned from the Parish Registers. These dating from 1561 tell us something of Richard Parker. He, at any rate, had accepted the new order of things for he was a married man with a large family. Four sons and three daughters succeeded each other till in 1586, in the month of October, "The Vicar's wife was buried." Perhaps this was the first time that such an incident had occurred in Beenham. Richard Parker himself followed her in 1610. His successors William Elton and Samuel Bofford were also family men. A long list of children follows their names among the baptisms and also burials, for infant mortality was almost the rule and not the exception in those days.

The next appointment was that of Philip Goddard, in whose time (1676) a return was required of the number of "Popish recusants, obstinate separatists and nonconformists" in the various parishes of the Diocese of Sarum. In Beenham at the time were a hundred and twenty inhabitants, seven Papists and no nonconformists. The Papists were doubtless of the household of Richard Perkins, a relative of the Ufton family. Philip Goddard suffered from discontent amongst his parishioners, though he and they were wise enough to submit their differences to arbitration. It is recorded on some pages at the end of the old Register book that in the year

1677 a "Publique" meeting was held between Mr. Philip Goddard, Vicar, and John Webb and divers others "in the presence of Mr. Samuel Brightwell, Esq^{re}. one of His Mag^{ties} Justices of the Peace and John Curtise, gentleman, arbitriater indifferently chosen to decide and conclude about the number and proportion of his common on Towneymead."

And then and there an agreement was made and signed that "the said Vicar should have 3 commons at half stint and 6 proportionately at whole stint and th^t there must be no after differences arise between the parties aforesaid, . and for confirmation of the sd. Agreement the sd. Philip Goddard the Vicar was to give unto the Parish Church of Beenham Two Books then wanting, which were the book of Homilies and the book of Cannons and Constitutions of the Church of England, which Books the said Vicar brought and delivered up and this was ordered to be set down in the Parish Book of Accounts and Registers for a perpetual memorial."

A few words of explanation seem necessary as to the nature of this dispute and its settlement.

The system of agriculture, known as the Common or Open Field system, had prevailed in England from Saxon times or even earlier. Customs varied in different parts of the country, but in this part of Berkshire certain lands bordering on the river Kennet were cultivated in common by Freehold landowners and their tenants. There were both arable, meadow, and pasture lands. The arable lands were divided by grass strips called "mere ridges" into parallel spaces about a furlong in length and a rood in width, four of which went to an acre. These pieces of land were allotted in rotation to the "commoners" as they were called; in no case would any man's lands, to however many he was entitled, be all held contiguously, but would be scattered over the entire field. A roll was kept of the order of rotation of the allotted strips, and, as it is expressed in an old Berkshire Parish Book preserved at Sulhamstead by the late Major Thoyts, "at the end, each lot returns and is the same as at the beginning, and so continues the same for ever."

Besides the arable land there was the meadow ground, on which the commoners grazed their cattle and horses and which was used also for hay (pigs were forbidden). Sheep were generally fed on the fallow. The number of cattle, sheep and horses which each man was allowed to turn out depended on the size of his holding in the arable ground. A large number was allowed before the meadows

were turned down for hay and before the fallow was ploughed up. The full number was termed "full stint" and the smaller would be "half stint." In some places the hay was made in common and afterwards divided, and in others the meadow was divided into strips and allotted before being mown.

The names of the open fields, as known in earlier times, are still preserved in the old Parish maps. In Beenham they were the following—beginning at the west and north of the Bath Road :—Bar field, Lye Furlong and Beenham field ; and south of the road : Ingle field, Wharf field and Paradise, part of East Mead and Towney Mead.

The next presentation, Richard Simeon, is said in the Bishop's Register to have been made by one Nathan Knight. Nathan is an unusual name, and it happened that at that time Nathan Wright, afterwards Keeper of the Great Seal under William and Mary, had some interest in Englefield, where his son eventually married the only daughter and heiress of Sir Francis Powlet, owner of the Englefield estates. It seems possible that it is his name that is here intended, but misspelt.

Another difficulty presents itself in connection with this presentation. Two presentations were made, according to the Register, in the same year 1686. The first to Richard Simeon on the death of Philip Goddard on the 30th April, and the second to John Willcox on the 2nd February, also 1686, by cession of Richard Simeon. The difficulty is more apparent than real, for by the old style of reckoning the year did not begin till the 25th of March, the first month of the new year was therefore April and the last of the same year would be February. The dates of the three first months after January 1st are generally written thus :—1687^a.

From the Parish Register we learn that yet another appointment was made later in 1687—that of a certain Robert Humphreys. Then the advowson changed ownership again and, according to Ashmole, Mr. Blagrove, presumably of Calcott, appointed another Philip Goddard to the vicarage. Of him we know that he was a contemporary and friend of George Goodall, Rector of Padworth (1683-1707), who made him his executor and residuary legatee. It is to this second Philip Goddard that we owe some most valuable notes copied by his successor Thomas Horton into a book of the tithe accounts of the Vicarage.

Thomas Horton or, as the name is sometimes written, Haughton,



April y^d 12th 1748th
 Chosen for the Church
 -warden of the Said Parish for the year
 Ensuing Mr Elvz Carter by me
 Tho Stackhouse vic^{ar}

resigned the living in 1733 and in the same year Thomas Stackhouse, M.A., was presented by a Mrs. Mary Forester.

Of this man and his writings there is no lack of information, and, as typical of the more learned clergy of his day, his career is undoubtedly interesting. How different the standards then were from those of the present time the reader may judge for himself. The following account is taken from the Dictionary of National Biography.

Thomas Stackhouse was ordained priest in London in 1704 and was a curate at Shepperton, and afterwards, about 1713, he was minister to the English Church in Amsterdam. He was not therefore without various experiences, but these did not fill his pocket. On his return to London he found himself in great poverty; so much so that he was induced to write and print an appeal to the then Bishop of London, John Robinson, in which he dwelt on the "Miseries and great hardships" suffered by the "inferiour clergy in and about London." He was just then beginning his great work, "The History of the Bible." The booksellers would advance him no money, and he made matters worse with them by his "irrepressible pen" in publishing a pamphlet called "The Bookbinder, Bookprinter and Bookseller confuted, or an Author's Vindication of Himself."

It was from a condition of extreme poverty and distress that he was rescued in the summer of 1733 by the influence of Edward Gibson, Bishop of London (John Robinson's successor), who obtained for him his appointment to the Vicarage of Beenham. He died and is buried there. The tradition of the place relates that he wrote some part of his famous History of the Bible not, as it is said, at the Beenham Vicarage, nor even within the confines of the village, but at a public-house hard by on the Bath Road, still existing, known as "The Three Kings or Jack's Booth," and it is further averred that, tired with his literary labours during the week, on Saturday nights he would sometimes stay late and drink deep, that after such occasions he was wont to choose the sin of drunkenness for his Sunday morning's sermon, and—"Didn't he give it himself!" Who are we to cast a stone at him, whose grandfathers and their fathers mostly did the like?

His great work, in two ponderous folio volumes, profusely illustrated, has, of course, long since been superannuated. It was written in defence of the inspiration of the Bible against the free-thinkers of the day. Only the curious book-lover is ever likely to

look at it now; but so far as the illustrations are concerned his curiosity is certainly likely to be repaid in amusement. Each illustration is dedicated to a different bishop. It is nowhere stated who was the artist, but he has a vivid imagination. The Ark, for instance, is represented as an enormous floating stable with windows, and out of each window there looks a different beast, while, to give an idea of the interior arrangement, a separate small square picture in the margin shows us a sample stall, very spacious and very clean, as it well may be since a man, presumably one of Noah's sons, is sweeping it out.

A white marble tablet, now placed on the north wall of the tower of Beenham Church, records Mr. Stackhouse's death and also his claims to the respect and admiration of Posterity. It is surmounted by a representation of an open Bible. The inscription is as follows :

Juxte reconditum est quod mortale fuit Thomæ
Stackhouse. A.M. Hujus Ecclesiæ per annos XIX
Vicarii. Qui pro Christiana fide strenuus admodum
propugnator non sine gloria militavit
Qui plus scire volunt scripta ejus consulant
Ex hac vita grata alterus vice corpore suo
solutus emigravit Octobris idibus A S
MDCCLII Ætat sua LXXII.

(Translation.)

Near this spot is hidden what was mortal of
Thomas Stackhouse, A.M. Vicar of this church for
XIX years. Who, a most valiant champion, fought
not without glory for the Christian faith.
Whoever wishes to know more, let them consult
his Writings His body being dissolved,
he emigrated from this life to another better
one on the Ides of October Old Style
1752, aged 72 years.

Thomas Horton next presented Francis Ayscough as his successor, and he, dying within three years was followed by Thomas Stevens, M.A. Mr. Horton, on this second presentation, describes himself as Rector of Hascombe in Surrey.

(To be continued.)



Sandhurst, Berks.

*By Capt. G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.*

(Continued from page 117, Vol. 19.)

In 1408 the churchwardens were ordered to repair the Church and churchyard, and we have a list of evil-doers presented by them. One of the parishioners was accused of "nigromancy," or sorcery, and the chaplain got into trouble for celebrating a secret marriage at night (in noctis tenebris) without banns or license.

Our knowledge of Sandhurst affairs for the first three hundred years of its existence is not unnaturally of the most meagre description. Names of inhabitants occur from time to time in the Feet of Fines preserved among the public records, when land changed hands, and abstracts of some of these documents are given in the appendix.

Three-quarters of the parish was, as it remained in recent times, a barren waste of heather. In the southern part, where the soil was more fertile, were the cottages of the people, each with its plot of garden, the better class ones with a small close also adjoining. It is improbable that there was ever a large manor house, but there was an ancient enclosure of two acres and a cottage on the site of Sandhurst Lodge, round which a great part of the demesne lay. The arable land was not enclosed and divided as in later times, but each inhabitant, according to his importance, would have so many acres in the three common fields. In Edward VI.'s reign they were named Church Field, Home Field, and Wydenershe|| Field respectively. In primitive days no doubt there was a common pasture near the river, besides the waste ground of the manor to the north, where animals could be turned out. By Tudor times, however, this

|| In Elizabeth's reign it is spelt "Witnesse Field."

was all in the hands of individuals, and the different closes had their own names.

As the parish was within the bounds of Windsor Forest, cattle grazing and turf cutting on the waste of the manor were subject to certain restrictions. About this something will be said later.

There was a Sandhurst mill in early days. John the Miller was witness to a deed in the reign of Edward I., and in the 17th year of the same King's reign (1289) a certain John Attegrene sold the mill and appurtenances to a man of his own name.¹ The mill apparently stood a little above Yateley bridge, where it is evident that the course of the Blackwater has been diverted in past days.

The village was taxed to supply money for the French wars, and from a much-tattered parchment preserved in the Public Record Office we get a list of parishioners who, with others in Sonning hundred, contributed a subsidy of $\frac{1}{10}$ to the King² :—

“HUNDRM DE SUNNYNG.

Villat de Sandhurst.

. . . . Bokhurst	iiii ^s	ix ^d	ob
. . . . Alisaunder		xviii ^d	
. . . . Uphall	ii ^s	iii ^d	ob
Johe Netherewell	ii ^s	viii ^d	ob
Willo atte Grove	ii ^s	iiii ^d	ob
J . . . atte Forde		xviii ^d	
. . . . atte Forde		xviii ^d	
. . . . lend	ii ^s	ii ^d	
. . . . Aylward	iii ^s	xi ^d	
Thom West		xvii ^d	ob
. . . . atte Grove	v ^s	vi ^d	
. . . . atte Purie	ii ^s		
. . . . le Bulkeler	v ^s	i ^d	ob
. . . . Attehulle	vii ^s	ii ^d	ob

sm^e xliiii^s i^d pba^r.

There were Alexanders living in the village in James I.'s reign. Grove's Farm is still known by that name, though the present house is modern. Ford's Farm is mentioned in an assessment of 1808, being now apparently represented by the farm buildings belonging to Sandhurst Lodge. The eighth name we may conjecture was that of the miller (molendinium = a mill). A Robert West lived in Finchampstead in the following reign (1327), and Allerd's Mead and

1. Feet of Fines, Berks, 17 Ed. I.

2. Lay Subsidy Roll, Berks, 73/5.

West Moor are on the Finchampstead boundary. "Purie" perhaps became "Perry," preserved in "Perry Bridge" and the adjoining field, "Perry Moor." The Bukelers were people of some importance, and held a large amount of land in Edward VI.'s reign.

In another document of rather later date* we find the names Henry de Wyfald, Adam de Benethfeld, Robert Norman, Roger Chapman, and Aylward West. Chapman's Moor and Little Chapman's retained their names at least four hundred years later.

In 1383 it was decided to send an army into Flanders in aid of the Urbanists against the French, who supported the claims of the rival Pope Clement. Pope Urban the Sixth sent his blessing and all kinds of pardons and indulgences for those who contributed towards the venture. Our only general at the time was apparently Henry Spencer, Bishop of Norwich, who had lately shown considerable energy in stamping out Wat Tyler's rebellion. He was given the command, and in a document dated at Westminster on June 25th he appointed John Chewe of Wokingham, and John Kuton of Sandhurst "his proctors, chaplains, penitentiaries, collectors and receivers of all monies bequeathed, collected, or contributed towards his crusade."†

Froissart describes how "the prelates preached up in their dioceses this expedition in the manner of a crusade; and the people of England, who were credulous enough, believed it too readily, so that none of either sex thought they should end the year happily nor have any chance of entering Paradise if they did not give handsomely to the expedition." The Bishop was at first fairly successful, but the campaign ended most ingloriously.

A field of two acres called "Le Butt" suggests the range of an early race of Sandhurst Territorials. In the reign of Edward IV. a knowledge of the use of the bow was insisted on, and on feast days every able-bodied villager in England had to practice shooting at the mark or pay a fine.

Between Sandhurst and the adjoining parish of Yateley there was always a close connection. In later years we frequently find the same clergyman in charge of both churches. Many persons also held land in both parishes, notably the family of Atte Halle of Halle Place, Yateley, in the fourteenth century. In the fifth year of Henry V. (1417) Richard Bannister of Yateley made over fifteen acres of his Sandhurst property to trustees for the use of the poor

* Report v Hist. MSS. Comm. App.

† Cal. Pat. Rolls. 7 Ric. ii.

of Yateley and Sandhurst, a charity still shared between the two parishes.

The old church continued in use till the year 1853, when it was practically rebuilt under the direction of Mr. Street. It is described in a local paper of that date as "a barn-like structure with traces of Norman work." Fortunately sketches are preserved at the Rectory and in the British Museum which present a clearer idea of the building in which the people of Sandhurst worshipped for over six hundred and thirty years. These show it to have been a small chapel, by no means void of dignity, without aisles, having a chancel roof considerably lower than the nave, and a low boarded belfry at the west end. The walls were largely composed of the sarsen stones which are found in the district. Its general features were characteristic of the early thirteenth century, though the east window was of later date. On the north side were five single lancet windows and a door with a simple pointed arch. On the south side one of the windows had a pair of lancets, another a group of three with trefoil headed arches. The moulding of the door on this side has been copied in the present south door. In the year 1818 there was a porch to this door-way. It is stated in the Ecclesiastical Topography of Berks that the chancel arch was of Norman work. There was a fine old font which it was for some reason considered necessary to break up. The font itself was square, supported on a solid square base by a cylindrical stem and four pillars at the corners. Each face contained four stones, the corner stones being decorated with crosses and a conventional flower pattern. The design on the central ones had become erased and is not obvious in the drawing. Two of the stones at least were built into the wall of the new church, and can be seen at the west end protected by drip-stones. A much later relic of the old church may be seen in the oak beam which was built into the roof of the nave opposite the south door. It bears the inscription :—

ANO. DOM. NOS. CAR. DEI. GRAT. ANG. SCOT. FRA. ET. HIB.
REG. FID. DEFN. VICS. TER. 1647.

It was a common custom to record repairs to a church in this way. The churchwardens were warned at the Dean's Visitation twenty years before this to repair the roof and the benches ; and the inscription may mean that a new roof was put on the nave this year.

Sandhurst suffered in common with the other Berkshire churches from the spoliation during Edward VI.'s reign, when the King's ministers turned from spoiling the monasteries to the parochial

chapels and chantries. Private individuals had in some cases anticipated them in plundering the church plate. Many of these no doubt were actuated by the idea that if the church property had to go, the children of those who had given it had a better right to it than the royal treasury. At any rate commissioners were appointed in the King's name to make inventories of the church goods all over the country. These people arrived at Sandhurst on August 1st, 1552, and the following list shows what they found there.¹

All these things had disappeared by James II.'s time as a later inventory in the churchwardens' book proves.

JOHN JEBBLE² AND WILLIAM CORDREY.

CHURCHWARDENS.

Thre belles hanging in the stepulle, a smalle bell to go before a corps, a chales percell gilte, Too coopes thone red braunched damaske wth wiers of golde, thother of grene and white sarsnet, Too vestmentes thone red braunched damaske wth golde wier, thother of red saten of burges wth gold w..... A vestment of black seye³ a vestment of grene dornex ij towelles. A crosse cloth of red ; Too banner clothes. Too crosses of brarst plate, a paire of sencers of brasse ; a pixe⁴ of brasse, A..... A holie wat^r potte of brasse, a basin of laten⁵ ; Too littell candelstickes of brasse, Too corpora⁶.....cases thone of blew seye thother of red seye. And all the said parcelles sauflie to be kept and preserved.....

At the same time it was discovered that some pious inhabitant had in past years endowed the church with the sum of eight pence annually to provide two lamps for the services for ever. This money, which was derived out of the rents of certain lands in the parish, was appropriated by the Crown also.⁷

1. From Money's Inventory of Church Goods in Berkshire, 1879.

2. This should surely be Jebblett ?—G.A.K.

3. Serge made entirely of wool.

4. A vessel for holding the box in which the Sacrament was preserved.

5. An alloy of copper and zinc.

6. A cloth of white linen in which the elements were consecrated.

7. Chantry Certificates, Berks, P.R.O.

(To be continued).



The Shiplake Virtuoso.

By Emily J. Climenson.

WHEN young William Plowden decided to follow the fortunes of his King and Master, James II., to France after the advent of William III. in 1688, the consequent expenses caused the Plowden family to sell Shiplake Court, which had been in their possession from the time of Queen Elizabeth, and to retain their Shropshire estate of Plowden, and Aston-le-Walls in Northamptonshire. William's mother, Penelope Plowden, a widow, was left to conclude the sale of Shiplake. William did not attain his majority till March 31st, 1689, and on April 3rd in the same year a deed is made by Sir William Turner, Mr. Caryll and Penelope Plowden to part with "Shiplack" to Mr. Robert Jennings and his son James. William Plowden the next year after the sale, though only 22 years old, commanded King James's second regiment of foot guards at the battle of the Boyne on July 1st. 1690. After the defeat William Plowden retired to France for two years. His uncle, Francis Plowden, was Comptroller of James II. Household, and he and his wife and three children were already at St. Germain's, but it is with the Jennings family we have to deal with. Mr. Robert Jennings was a Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, and had been Head Master of Reading and Abingdon schools. He was of great descent, a cousin of Sarah Duchess of Marlborough of the Jennings of Sandridge, and on either paternal and maternal pedigree descended from royalty.

From a Jennings paper lent to me by a descendant of the family, it appears, Mr. Robert Jennings was ejected from the Mastership of the Reading Grammar School, to which he had been recommended by Sir Bulstode Whitelock. "Probably he was more particularly an object of persecution because he had borne arms for Charles I. within the garrison of Oxford. When he left Reading (in 1654) he became private tutor in the family of the Powys' at Hardwick, and was afterwards Master of the Free School, Abingdon."

Barnard in his *Life of Heylin* mentions Mr. Jennings as "an ingenious person ejected from his Fellowship of St. John's, Oxford,

as one of the constant visitors to Dr. Heylin at Abingdon, who had been Charles I.'s chaplain."

Anyhow Mr. Jennings seems to have got a considerable fortune at Abingdon (said to be from capitation fees, etc.) Robert Jennings married his cousin Mary Jennings of Long Wittenham, and by her had two sons and two daughters. James his eldest son and heir, married Frances, daughter of Henry Constantine of Merley and Lake, Dorset, a very ancient family descended from George, Duke of Clarence, brother of Edward IV. By her he had ten children, nine of whom were born at Shiplake. In 1694 Mr. Robert Jennings was nominated High Sheriff of Oxon, but pleading old age his son James officiated in his place. Robert Jennings died 1703, ætat 83. Of James Jennings' ten children Henry is the one of interest to us. He married Susannah Kent, a great heiress in Dorset, and owning vast estates at Mondego Bay, Jamaica. They had five children, four sons and one daughter, their fifth child a son *Henry Constantine* is the subject of this sketch. His father Henry Jennings died at Aix in 1739, was embalmed and brought to Shiplake for burial, his son Henry Constantine being only eight years old, his elder brother Robert 12, and his sister Susannah 14, the other two boys died very young. Robert entered the East India Merchant Service, was second mate on the "Walpole," and died in 1751. From hence Henry Constantine became the only son and heir of the Jennings' property. He had been educated at Westminster School, and it was there he acquired that taste for classics and the arts which distinguished him ever after. On May 1st, 1749, in George II.'s reign Henry Constantine Jennings was gazetted to the first regiment of foot guards, and for the three years he was in the Army was quartered at London or its outskirts and occasionally at Windsor. After the death of his elder brother he resigned his commission on Jan. 16th, 1752. In 1753 his mother placed him in possession of his property at Shiplake and elsewhere. He now commenced what was then called the "grand tour" and visited the Continent with the Marquis of Blandford (afterwards George, fourth Duke of Marlborough). He resided some while in France thence crossing the Alps into Italy, where he remained eight years, three of which he spent at Rome. He spent his time agreeably but expensively in Italy. Whatever his faults were, he was of a most refined and cultivated taste, and must have been an agreeable companion. His other fellow-traveller was Lord Monthermer, only son of the Duke of Montagu, and a connection of his own on his grand-mother's

side. Jennings now began to make his first collection of objects *de vertu*, statuary, etc., and from the following circumstances acquired the vulgar name of "Dog" Jennings, a soubriquet that stuck to him through life. The story shall be told in his own words :—

"I happened one day to be strolling along the streets at Rome and perceiving the shop of a statuary in an obscure street, I entered and began to look around for any curious production of art. I at length perceived something uncommon at least, but being partly concealed behind a heap of rubbish I could not contemplate it with any degree of accuracy. After all impediments had been removed, the marble statue I had been poking for was dragged into open day ; it proved to be a huge but fine dog ; and a fine dog it was and a lucky dog was I to discover it and to purchase it ! On turning it round I perceived its tail was docked : this gave me a hint. I also saw the limbs were finely proportioned and that the figure was noble—that sculpture in short, was worthy of the best age of Athens, and that it must be of the age of Alcibiades, whose favourite dog it certainly was. I struck a bargain on the spot for 400 Scudi, and as the muzzle alone was damaged, I paid the artist a trifle more for repairing it. It was carefully packed and being sent to England after me, by the time it reached my house in Oxfordshire it had cost me £80. I wish all my other bargains had been like it for it was exceedingly admired, as well I knew it must be, by connoisseurs, by more than one of whom I was offered £1,000. In truth by a person sent, I believe, from Blenheim I was offered £1,400 ; but I would not part with my dog ; I had bought him for myself and I liked to contemplate his fine proportions, and admire him at my leisure, for he was doubly dear to me as being my own property and my own selection."

This quotation is taken from Timbs' "English Eccentrics," in which there is a short life of Mr. Jennings.

(*To be continued.*)

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—On the 26th ult., the President gave a most interesting lecture on the Churches of Stanford-in-the-Vale, Hatford and Shellingford, and the Chapels of Goosey and Baulking. As usual the lecture was illustrated by lantern slides, from photographs specially taken by Messrs. Walton Adams.

The Two-day Excursion of the Society will be to Chichester on the 11th and 12th of June.



Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1912—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

HURLEY.—Amongst the notes made in Rodbourne Cheney, Wilts, parish registers by the Rev. Nicholas Adey, vicar 1676-1713, is the following :—

“ My most loving friend Mr. Francis Stevens of this parish died suddenly Jan. 21, and was buried at Hurley in Barkshire Jan. 23, 1682.”

—W.H.H.

FARNBOROUGH.—Stephen Weston, Bishop of Exeter, was born at Farnborough near Wantage, in 1665. Vicar of Mapledurham, Prebend of Ely, and Archdeacon of Cornwall, died 1742. He is said by tradition amongst his descendants to have been nearly related to Richard Weston, first Earl of Portland.

—W.H.H.

TWO OLD DOCUMENTS.—An anonymous donor has, through the Mayor, presented to the local Museum two old documents of no little interest. May I, as Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee, thank in the most public manner this anonymous donor, and also commend his example to others. There are doubtless many old papers lying about which are of little value to their present possessors, but which would be of great interest in a public collection, where they would be available for research purposes. Of the two documents in question, the one I propose to deal with to-day, leaving the other for a subsequent article, is

A BELL-FOUNDER'S BOND.

This deed dates from 1677, in the reign of Charles II., and guarantees the satisfactory casting of a treble bell for Bray Church. It is written on paper which bears as a water-mark a large crown with a lambrikin, under which are a helmet and shield, the latter being divided into three compartments by perpendicular lines, the centre compartment bearing three S. Andrew's crosses, and the whole shield supported by a lion and a unicorn. The document is endorsed in the same handwriting as appears inside, “ The Bell-founder's bond for warranting the Tribble of Bray 1677.”

As was usual in such documents, the bond is in Latin, and the conditions are in English. The writing is excellent and not difficult to read, though the Latin abounds with the customary contractions. The document is appended in full, with the reservation that, as the ordinary printing office does not keep in stock all the old technical marks of contractions, matters are here compromised by making the apostrophe do universal duty :—

“Nov'int univ'si p' p'ntes nos Ellis Knight de Reading in Com' Berks Bell-founder et Henricu' Knight de Reading p'dict' Bellfounder teneri et firmiter obligari Henrico Oakley et Whillmo Lambden Gardianis Ecclesie p'och' de Bray in Com' p'dict' in Quatuordecim Libris bene et legalis monet' Anglie solvend eisdem Gardianis aut eorum cert' Attorn' successoribus vel Assignatis suis Ad quiquidem soluc'o'em bene et fidel'er faciend' Obligamus nos et utr'mq' no'm p' se p' toto et in solid' hered' execut' et Admin' n'ros firmiter p' p'ntes sigillis n'ris sigellat' dat' Vicessimo die Julii Anno Regni Dom' n'ri Caroli Secundi Dei gra' Anglie Scotie francie and Hib'rne Regis fidei Defensor' etc. Vicesimo nono Annoq' D'ni 1677.”

[Translation :—Know all men by these presents that we, Ellis Knight, of Reading, in the County of Berks, bellfounder, and Henry Knight, of Reading aforesaid, bellfounder, are held and firmly bound to Henry Oakley and William Lamden, Churchwardens of the parish of Bray, in the County aforesaid, in fourteen pounds of good and lawful English money, to be paid to the same Churchwardens or their certified Attorney, their successors or assigns. To the which payment to be made well and faithfully we bind ourselves and each of us jointly and severally our heirs, executors and administrators firmly by these presents sealed with our seals. Dated the 23rd day of July, in the 29th year of the reign of our Lord Charles II. by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of Our Lord, 1677.]

“The Condition of this Obligation is such That whereas the above bounden Ellis Knight and Henry Knight have the day of the Date hereof newe cast and made one Bell being for a Treble to the five Bells now hanging in the Tower of the said Parish of Bray abovesaid Nowe if the said Bell shall be tuneable and doe agree in tune and sound with the said five Bells as it ought to doe, and shall soe continue whole unbroken sound and tuneable for the space of one whole yeare and a day next after the date hereof Or if the said Bell shall happen to be broken or not to be sound or tuneable as aforesaid att any time or times within ye said yeare and a day and notice thereof given to the said Ellis Knight and Henry Knight or either of them their or either of their Executo' or Administrato' and the same being deliv'ed into the yard or back-side of the said Ellis Knight in Reading abovesaid att the only costs and charges of the above named Churchwardens or their successo' Then if the said Ellis Knight and Henry Knight their Executo' or assignes or some or one of them shall and doe within two months next after the delivery of the said Bell as aforesaid from time to time as often as occasion shall require within the aforesaid space of one yeare and a day att their owne proper costs and charges newe cast or amend and make sound and tuneable the said Bell as aforesaid soe as it may agree in tune and sound with the said five Bells as it ought to doe And if upon the newe casting the said Bell as aforesaid by virtue hereof the same shall be of lesse weight than before Then if the said Ellis Knight and Henry Knight or either of them their or either of their Executo' Administrato' or assignes shall pay or cause to be paid unto the said Churchwardens or their successo' after the rate of Tenn Pence a pound for every pound weight then wanting And if the same Bell shall be more in weight then before the casting thereof Then the said Churchwardens or their successo' are to

pay unto the said Ellis Knight and Henry Knight or one of them their or one of their Executo' or assigns after the rate of Thirteene Pence a pound for every pound weight over and above the weight of the same Bell before such newe casting thereof Then this obligation to be void and of none effect Or else to be and remaine in full fore and virtue.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

Thomas Pave

Samvel Wilmer, sen.

ELLIS KNIGHT (LS).

HENRY KNIGHT (LS)."

A perusal of the above suggests several interesting points respecting both Bray Church Bells and their founders.

At the present time the peal consists of six bells, No. 1, the treble, being the bell above referred to. Its note is B, and experts have pronounced it to be a really good bell. It bears the inscription "Fear God; Honour the King; 1678." The second bell, whose note is A, has on it a label with the inscription: "Henry Knight made this bell Anno 1612." Round the bell, and underneath the label, are the following initials: T.W., R.G., H.P., E.L., but for what names they stand I have not as yet obtained any information. This bell is the oldest in the peal. The third is one year its junior, bearing an inscription which says: "Henry Knight made this bell Anno 1613." Its note is G. The fourth bell, F, is thus inscribed: "The Rev. Edward Townshend—Vicar; George Sanders, William Baker, Churchwardens, 1812. *Perpetuus annis memor esto Mariae Johannis cujus subcura fueras. Mala pella futura. T. Mears fecit.*" The fifth bell professes to sound the note E, but is rather flat. It bears the inscription: "Thos. Ward, Wm. Lee, Churchwardens, 1771." The sixth or tenor bell has nothing on it but the date "1656." It sounds a sharp D and has been highly eulogised by experts, some of whom have spoken of it as the finest in this part of the country. Nos. 5 and 6, dating as they do from 1812 and 1771 respectively, are probably re-casts, as the above Bond speaks of five bells already existing in 1678. I have been given to understand that they are the least successful of the peal, and perhaps it is as well that so far I have not been able to glean anything of their history.

It will be noted that Nos. 1, 2 and 3 bells and probably No. 6, the splendid tenor, came from the celebrated Reading foundry, which was run by the Knight family with distinguished success for a prolonged period. Prior to the Knights' connection with it this business was at first carried on at Wokingham, and though no trace of the old foundry is visible there now, a lane bearing the name of "Bell Lane" probably perpetuates the memory of the fact. Reading subsequently became a noted centre for bell-founding, and amongst the municipal records is a book dating from about 1565, entitled "The Booke of the Names and Ordnances of the Cutlers and Bell-founders Companye." Three names of Reading firms are there given, William Welles, William Knighte and Vincent Garrowaye. This Wm. Knight died in 1586. His earliest bell-founding exploit on record is the casting a bell in 1567 for St. Lawrence, Reading. He is believed to have been the son of a distinguished father of the same name who was Under Warden of the Bell-founders' Company of London in 1518, Upper Warden in 1528, and Master in 1530. The line was continued by Henry, d. 1622, Ellis, d. 1642, Henry, d. 1672, and Henry who gave the bond above mentioned, who was in partnership with a second Ellis Knight, and died in 1680. The last to hold the business in Reading was Samuel Knight, who removed to London about 1710, for as roads and methods of transit improved, it became more and more the custom to concentrate in the Metropolis those trades the

products of which were not in every-day demand. Before Samuel left Reading he cast another bell for Bray Church, which was in 1841 sold to the members of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion for their Chapel in Maidenhead, now used by the Wesleyans. Here it abides in the turret, strikes the hours by the clock, and bears the inscription, "Samvell Knight made mee 1703."—J. W. WALKER.

Replies.

BRICKS.—There is no standard size for bricks until after the year 1800. It was not until 1839, when the tax on bricks was repealed, that the size of bricks was practically fixed by Act of Parliament and has remained since unaltered. In former times bricks varied in size in different districts, but measurements of bricks in old buildings seem to show they were smaller generally at that time than the present standard which is 8½in. long, 4½in. wide, 2½in. thick.—W. H. HALLAM, Lockinge.

Queries.

WANTED information about the Abbot's of Reading summer residences. A house here called "Quernies" is supposed to have belonged to Reading Abbey. Twenty-two years ago, when we came here, it was a very interesting looking old building in the form of an L. A wood near is even now called Abbot's Wood, also a field close by is always spoken of as Abbots-field. Three years ago the old house was a great deal altered and made into a gentleman's residence, it had been used as a farm-house for generations, as we knew an old lady, a farmer's daughter at Tylehurst, who was born at Quernies.—Rev. M. PENTYCROSS, The Chaplain's House, Goring Heath.

Reviews.

"HAMPSHIRE RECORDS, OLD AND NEW." An illustrated Quarterly Journal. No. I., Jan., 1914. Printed for H. E. RAYNBIRD by C. E. Symonds, Basingstoke.

We are always glad to welcome new publications dealing with antiquarian subjects and kindred studies. Mr. Hugh E. Raynbird is to be congratulated on the first number of "Hampshire Records, Old and New." It is both well printed and illustrated, and contains some interesting articles, the first of which is a description of the geology of Hampshire, accompanied by an excellent map in colours to show the various formations of soil. As this county borders on Berkshire for some miles, Berkshire people will find much to interest them in this description.

Other articles deal with Hampshire rivers, woods, trees, and cricket at Hackwood Park. There is also an interesting biography of the late Right Hon. Arthur Jeffreys, formerly M.P. for the Basingstoke Division of the County, and also of the late Mr. George Moss, who till his recent death was in charge of the excavations which Lord Bolton is carrying on at Basing House. This house, till its destruction by Cromwell, was the residence of the Marquis of Winchester. The gallant Marquis, who so bravely defended his ancestral home against the Roundheads, after its fall lived at Englefield House, and died there 6th March. 1674, aged 76.

Amongst the illustrations is one of the cork trees in Swallowfield Park, but in the description an error has been made. Swallowfield is not Mrs. Russell's residence, but that of Sir Charles Russell. We hope our new contemporary will have a long life before it.—J. HAUTENVILLE COPE.

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Fig. 17. From the South



GOOSEY CHAPEL



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Fig. 18. West End



Fig. 19. Interior looking East



Fig. 20. Corbels supporting Nave Roof

GOOSEY CHAPEL



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Fig. 21. Tie Beam supporting West Turret

GOOSEY CHAPEL



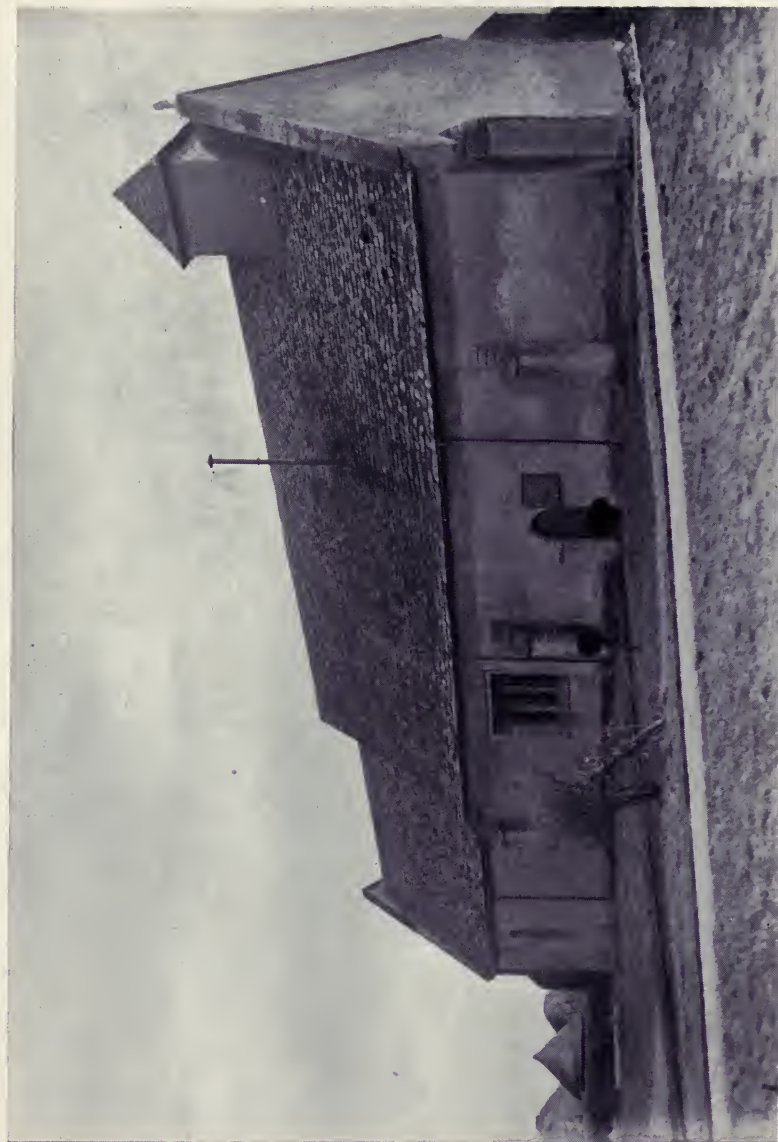
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Fig. 22. Female Saint in ancient Glass



Fig. 23. From the South

BAULKING CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 24. From the North West

BAULKING CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading.

Fig. 25. The East Window

BAULKING CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 26. Piscina, South of Chancel



Fig. 27. Interior of Chancel looking West



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Fig. 28. Arch and Squints between Nave and Chancel

BAULKING CHURCH



Walton Adams & Sons, Reading

Fig. 29. The Font, and Nave looking East

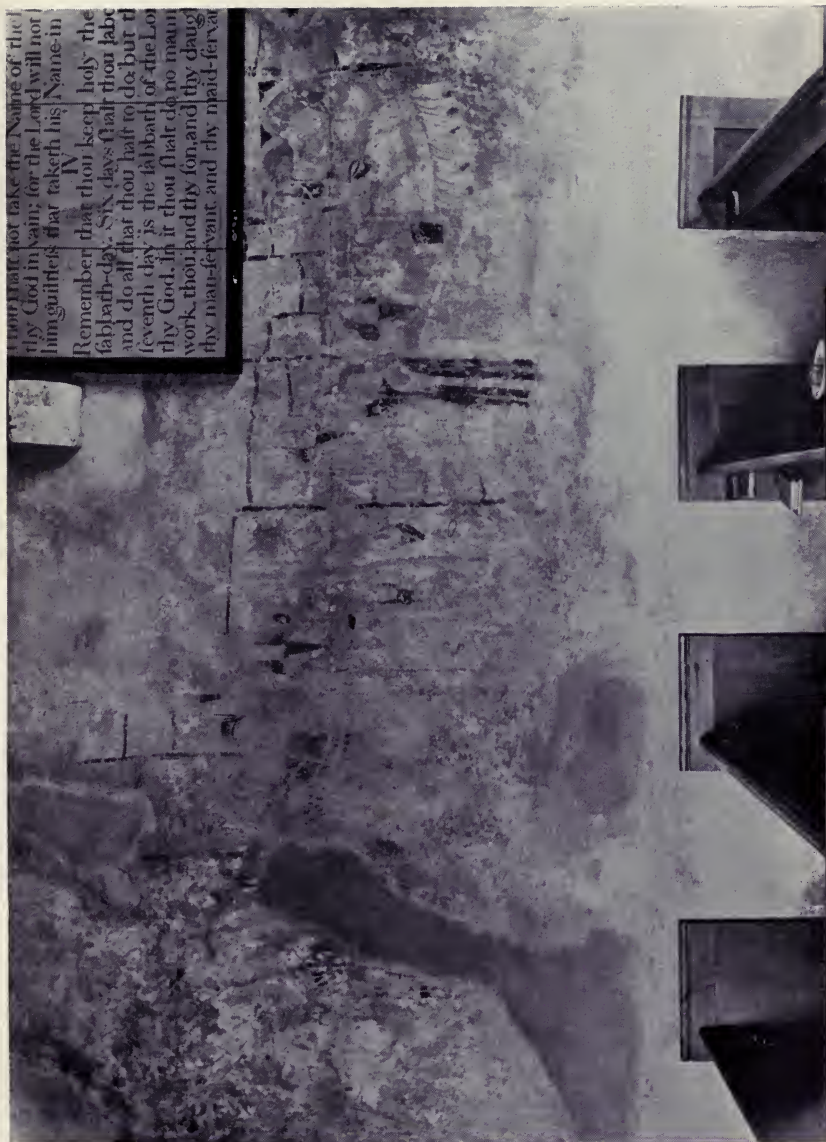


Fig. 30. Painting on North Wall of Nave



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stanford-in-the-Vale, Hatford and Shellingford and the Chapels of Goosey and Baulking.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 26th, 1914.)

(Continued from page 9).

A drive of about two miles will bring us to Goosey, a hamlet in the parish of Stanford. The Manor was granted by King Offa to the Monks of Abingdon, in exchange for the isle of Andresey in the Thames near their convent, which the King wanted for the purpose of building a palace. In the reign of Charles I. it was in the possession of the Matthews family, and several memorials to them still remain in the Chapel. This stands, with other picturesque buildings, on the edge of Goosey Green, one of those typical old English village greens of which, alas ! too few remain to the present day. The Chapel (Fig. 17), dedicated to All Saints, is a small structure, though large enough for the needs of this small hamlet, and consists of a nave with modern west turret and chancel. A new vestry has recently been added. The dimensions are given in Murray's handbook as $53\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width. The chancel is 17 feet 3 inches wide internally, though, owing to the greater thickness of the nave wall, the nave appears on the outside to be wider than the

chancel. The length of the chancel is about 20 feet. The Chapel (Fig. 18) seems to have been built early in the 13th century, though one round-headed window on the north of the nave may indicate an earlier date. Various windows have been inserted in the 16th century. Starting at the east end (Fig. 19) we notice that the east window is of three lights plain oblong debased perpendicular. We are informed by Parker in the *Ecclesiastical Topography* that below this was a "flat perpendicular tester painted with emblems of the Crucifixion and with a shield bearing the arms of the Hydes," or Fettiplaces. This has unfortunately disappeared in one of these so-called restorations, as has also a painting of the Crucifixion above it, and a row of trefoil-headed panels on the wall plate of the chancel roof. This is high pitched and partly old. In the usual place, projecting from the south wall, is a semi-octagonal bowl of the piscina. There was formerly a square locker to the east of this, but this, too, has disappeared. On this side is a plain oblong two-light debased window. On the floor are several ledger stones to the memory of the Matthews family, namely, to William Matthews, died 1747, and Mary his wife, died 1718, to Mary, wife of William Matthews, died 1760, and others. There is no division between the nave and chancel. The nave roof is a good specimen of timber work, high pitched with tie beams and king posts. It is supported on wall pieces resting on stone brackets (Fig. 20); at east end on head of a king on south and bishop on north, and further west on the head of a lady on the south and a man on the north, probably the benefactors of the Church. They are said to be of Early English date. The turret (Fig. 21) is supported on a very massive tie beam at the west end. On north side of the nave is one lancet restored. On the south is one rather large semicircular-headed widely-splayed lancet, then two more lancets adjoining each other, and then a single lancet near the west end. In the semi-circular-headed lancet is in old glass a beautiful little figure (Fig. 22), which in Parker's time was in the east window. It represents a female saint kneeling, with golden curly hair, yellow robe and border to her cloak. She holds a book in the right hand, and has the left clasped to her breast. She stands on a yellow mound with various flowers depicted on it. She has no emblem to explain her identity. The window is made up of white glass with a diaper of oak leaves in yellow. Part of a stringcourse of transitional Norman character remains below the window. The west window is a large widely-splayed lancet, probably of the decorated period. The font is of rather uncertain

character. It has a large octagonal bowl on slightly smaller stem, and has at some comparatively modern time been embellished with paint. The pulpit is Georgian. Over the north doorway are the Royal Arms of George III. To the east of the north doorway is an oblong recess with a projecting octagonal basin for the holy water stoup. The north doorway, within a modern porch, has a four-centred late 15th century arch with two fluted orders to the arch and jambs. The door key is very old, and is alleged to be Early English work. The exterior walls are covered with roughcast. The turret and porch are new, and the windows are much renewed. There are angle buttresses at east and west end, and others supporting the nave and chancel. The west window has an external hoodmould.

A drive of about three miles will bring us to Baulking (Fig. 23), now a picturesque village with its goose green, similar to that at Goosey, but formerly a place of some importance. It was anciently a market town; the market day was changed in 1219 from Thursday to Tuesday, and the market was confirmed by a subsequent Charter in 1253. This has been long discontinued. The Manor was comprised with that of Kingston Lisle, and belonged at an early period to the Lisle family. Baulking was a hamlet in the Parish of Uffington, and after being allied with Woolstone has within quite recent times been converted into a separate parish. The Chapel or Church (Fig. 24), dedicated to St. Nicholas, stands in the centre of the green, and consists, as at Goosey, of a west turret, nave and chancel. Its dimensions are given as $78\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length by 18 feet in breadth. It appears to have been built at about the end of the 12th century, the nave being of this date, with later windows inserted in the walls, while the chancel is Early English of the early part of the 13th century.

Commencing our survey in the interior of the chancel, we notice the beautiful Early English east window (Fig. 25), with triple lancets, having a continuous hoodmould resting on shafts with well-moulded circular capitals and bases, in front of and detached from the main jambs of the windows. There is a small roll moulding in the heads of the arches. On either side of the chancel are two plain lancets with segmental-headed containing arches. In the usual place in the south wall is an interesting piscina (Fig. 26) with a central shaft supporting one arch opening to the chancel, and another to the splay of the adjoining window. In the north-west corner of the chancel is the doorway and stone steps to the roodloft. The

chancel is separated from the nave by a solid stone screen (Fig. 27). It has in the centre a good early decorated arch with three recessed orders on the east end and two on the west face, the outer orders being carried down without imposts to the ground, the inner supported on half-round responds with well-moulded capitals and bases. On the north side (Fig. 28) is a plain squint through the wall, and on the south a double squint divided by a plain impost with a chamfer stop at the top and bottom. The screen is carried up to the level of the wall plate, and the old rood beam rests upon it. The nave roof is high pitched with tie beams, and is partly old. It seems to have been repaired in the 18th century. On the south of the nave are two decorated windows of two lights with a quatrefoil in the head, and widely-splayed containing arches. On the north of the nave is a three-light square-headed perpendicular window with good cusping and a wooden lintel. At the west end is the font (Fig. 29) with very large octagonal tubshaped bowl on a circular base. It is co-eval with the earliest part of the Church. On the north wall of the nave are considerable remains of mural painting. Between the window and the doorway has been a large subject within a very pretty red border. A tablet to George Champion, who died in 1722, has unfortunately been placed right in the middle of it. In the lower part of the west side can be made out the long tail of a serpent, and possibly the trappings of a horse above. This would suggest that the subject was St. George and the Dragon, which is often found in this position. The space above the door, which would have appropriately been occupied by a portraiture of St. Christopher, is hidden behind a large panel on which are painted the Ten Commandments. To the west of the doorway has been a subject in several compartments with several small figures (Fig. 30). A couch in the centre division suggests the story of the Nativity, but the plaster has been only partially removed, and it is difficult to hazard an interpretation. It seems to be of earlier date than the suggested St. George.

The pulpit in the south-east corner of the nave is good Jacobean. It is hexagonal in shape, and five of the sides, with well-carved panels, still remain.

On the nave walls are several tablets. On the north wall, near the east end, one to Robert Grove, died 1698, with the text from Job xix., 26, "Though after my skin, etc." Farther west, over painting of St. George, to George Champion, died 1722. On the south wall to Robert Grove, died 1758, Elizabeth his wife, died

1763. Elizabeth Garrard | and Ann Alexander | their daughters |
 in testimony of their dutiful regard | to their parents ; and of | their
 affection to their brother | caused this monument | to be erected. |
 John, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Garrard, of Wantage, grandson
 of Robert Grove, died 1793.

Further west, tablet to Thomas Champion, Vintner.

Near this Place
 Lyeth the Body of
 Mr. Thomas Champion
 late of London, Vintner.
 Who hath been a Benefactor
 To the Poor of this Place
 and likewise left
 The Sacrament Plate
 To the Communion Table.

He departed this Life
 The 23rd of March Anno Dom 172 $\frac{3}{4}$

This Monument was Erected at
 The Expense of his Widow.

There are also several old ledger stones on the floor to the Champions and others.

The south doorway is plain obtusely pointed transition Norman or Early English with plain chamfered arch and jambs, and rather late form of undercut abacus. The north doorway is also plain obtusely pointed with chamfered arch and jambs and the earlier form of grooved and chamfered abacus. There is no west window. The decorated windows on the south side have external drip-stones. There are buttresses at the angles at the west end, along the north wall, and at east angles of chancel.

(To be continued).





Berkshire Archaeological Society.

ANNUAL MEETING AND REPORT.

THE Annual Meeting took place on April 28th, at the Abbey Gate, Reading. In the absence of the President (Mr. C. E. Keyser) the chair was taken by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, who referred to the numerous losses the Society had sustained by the deaths of prominent members. He then presented the Annual Report and said that his colleague, Mr. J. Hautenville Cope, who could not be present that day owing to being one of the actors in the Oxford Pageant, had very kindly written the report.

The adoption of the report was carried unanimously.

The report of the Hon. Treasurer and the annual balance sheet were then read and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Chairman proposed the re-election of the President, Mr. C. E. Keyser, F.S.A., which was carried with acclamation. The Vice-Presidents were re-elected, and the Rev. A. R. Price, Mr. A. Petrocokino and Prof. Williams were elected to the Committee. In proposing the re-election of the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield as hon. sec., Mr. T. H. White remarked on their good fortune in having a secretary who gave so much time to the Society. Speaking for all the members, he trusted that it would be many years before they would have to choose another secretary. This was carried unanimously. Mr. E. Ravenscroft was re-elected hon. treasurer, with thanks for the trouble he was taking for their benefit in a somewhat difficult position, and the Rev. Morris Williams was re-elected hon. librarian.

A lecture was then given by Professor Stenton, of University College, on "The Road System of Mediæval England." Basing his remarks mainly on ancient maps and road-books the lecturer briefly described some of the chief lines of traffic across the country in the 13th and 14th centuries, comparing their directions with those of the then largely abandoned Roman roads. He also referred to the computed mileages of the maps and the influence which the position of bridges over the larger rivers had in determining the direction of

the main roads between the towns. Mr. Ll. Treacher proposed and Mr. R. F. Duff seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Prof. Stenton for his lecture, and the Chairman said he hoped it would be published in some form in which they could study it more at leisure.

Tea was provided by Mrs. F. E. Williams.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1913-14.

The Committee has the honour to present the Report for the past year.

LECTURES.

Following its usual practice the Society has held a "winter session," when lectures dealing not only with the history and antiquities of the County were given, but also on subjects of wide and varied interest. The increased attendance of members and their friends at the lectures proves how much these are appreciated. The Society owes a debt of gratitude not only to those who were so kind as to lecture, but also to their Secretary for arranging so interesting a series. The Berkshire Archæological Society is one of the few local archæological societies which hold "winter sessions."

Following the Annual Meeting of May 2nd, 1913, the Secretary gave a most interesting lecture on "The Inns of Court and Chancery."

The first lecture of the "winter session" was on November 7th, when Mr. Cope lectured on "Winchester." The lecture was illustrated by an excellent set of lantern slides, lent for the occasion by the kind courtesy of the Corporation of the City of Winchester.

On November 24th, Mr. Arthur Sutton, who is a Vice-President of the Society, gave a most interesting lecture entitled "My Camel Ride from Suez to Mount Sinai." The pictures exhibited on the screen were taken by Mr. Sutton during his Eastern tour. The lecturer, who has frequently visited Palestine and other Eastern countries mentioned in sacred history, is an authority on the topography and antiquities of the Holy Land and on other places in the neighbourhood of the latter country. The Society is therefore very grateful to him for having given such a graphic description of his last visit to "Bible Lands."

On January 3rd, 1914, an opportunity was offered to our Society—of which many members availed themselves—to meet their former treasurer, Mr. W. Ravenscroft, F.S.A., who delighted his audience

with a clever lecture on "The testimony of Catacomb Exploration to the Christian Faith in Rome."

On February 20th, 1914, we were visited by Mr. Dale, F.S.A., F.G.S., Secretary of the Hampshire Field Club and Archæological Society, who from his wide range of local knowledge delighted his audience with an account of "Pre-historic Hampshire." The Berkshire Society enjoyed meeting the Secretary of the neighbouring Hampshire Society. His lecture was much appreciated by those who heard it, and the Society is much indebted to Mr. Dale, who is one of the best known authorities on geology, for his charming lecture.

On March 6th, 1914, Mr. Lee of Bradfield College, who has made a study of Stonehenge and similar stone circles, gave a most excellent lecture on "Stonehenge and other Megalithic Remains in Great Britain."

On March 26th, 1914, the sixth lecture of the current winter session was given by the President of our Society "On the Churches of Stanford-in-the-Vale, Hatford and Shellingford, and the Chapels of Goosey and Baulking." The attendance as usual was large, which testifies to the appreciation with which Mr. Keyser's lectures are always heard. This lecture, like the former ones given by our President, was accompanied by a series of most beautiful lantern slides. These were especially prepared by Messrs. Walton Adams of Reading, under Mr. Keyser's personal supervision.

The final lecture of this session will be given after the Annual Meeting, April 28th, 1914, by Professor F. M. Stenton, of University College, Reading, on "The Road System of Mediæval England."

At the conclusion of each lecture tea was provided by the following ladies and gentlemen, and the best thanks of the Society are due to them for their kind hospitality, viz : The President and Mrs. Keyser, Mr. and Mrs. Chisman, the Misses Deacon, Miss Waldron, Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Mr. and Mrs. Petrocokino and Mrs. F. E. Williams.

EXCURSIONS.

During the year under review three excursions took place, the first being a "two-day excursion" on June 23rd and 24th, to Warwick and the neighbourhood. This was the third such excursion the Society has organised, and following former precedents it was held in conjunction with the Newbury Field Club. The popu-

larity of these excursions is shown by the very large number who participate in them; on this occasion the party numbered 52. During the stay in Warwick the Woolpack Hotel was the Society's headquarters. On the first day, St. Mary's Church and the Beauchamp Chapel were visited, where the Vicar the Rev. Allan Williams and Alderman Kemp received the party, and after a few words of welcome conducted them round the building. Leaving the Church, the historic Castle of Warwick, which contains such a vast collection of art treasures, was seen. The Society was entertained to tea by Revd. Allan Williams, after which the party were shown round the Leicester Hospital by the master, the Rev. Canon Toovey, and on the same afternoon some members of the Society visited the Museum. In the evening the Mayor gave a reception at which the maces belonging to the Corporation were exhibited and Alderman Kemp showed the "Black Book of Warwick," the first charter of incorporation granted by Philip and Mary and Henry Fisher's diary. Next day an expedition was made to Stoneleigh Abbey, the seat of Lord Leigh, Stoneleigh Church, Kenilworth Castle and Kenilworth Church, and Guy's Cliff, the residence of Lord Algernon Percy. Pleasing recollections of this excursion to Warwick will long be retained by those who were so fortunate as to participate in it. The Society tender their best thanks to all those who, either by providing hospitality, or by allowing their residences to be seen, so greatly helped to make this excursion so very successful.

On July 21st the Society, in conjunction with the Newbury Field Club, visited West Hanney, Lyford, Charney Bassett, and Stanford-in-the-Vale, when the Churches at these various places were all described by the President. The pages of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal contain a full description of these buildings from Mr. Keyser's able pen.

The last excursion of the season was to Waltham St. Lawrence, Shottesbrook, White Waltham and Haines Hill. At the first-mentioned place the Church was described by our President; at Shottesbrooke House the Society was welcomed by the owner, Mr. Guy Oswald Smith, a paper dealing with the history of the house and parish was read by the Secretary, and the details of Shottesbrook Church were explained by the President, as were those of White Waltham. At Haines Hill the party received a hearty welcome from Captain Godsall, the owner of this fine place, and a paper giving the history of the house was read by Mr. Ditchfield.

PUBLICATIONS.

This year the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal reaches its twentieth year of publication. During this year its readers are indebted to our President for his very able study of Berkshire Churches, and also for the illustrations which accompany the letterpress. During the past year two parish histories have appeared in this Journal, viz., Sandhurst, by Captain Kempthorne, R.A.M.C., and that of Beenham by the well-known writer Miss Sharp, of Ufton Court. Other articles of interest are: "Manor Courts," by the Rev. Canon Oldfield, D.D.; "Berks Feet of Fines," transcribed by Mr. Acton Pile; "Churchwarden's Accounts of St. Mary's, Thame," transcribed by Mr. Patterson Ellis; "A Memoir of the late Mr. James Parker," by Mr. Sollas, Professor of Geology, Oxford University. Old members of the Society will recall to mind how greatly they are indebted to Mr. Parker for much kind assistance when the Society was started. Other contributors, viz., the Rev. F. T. Wethered and the Rev. J. E. Field, have sent short articles, for which they are thanked. Several correspondents have availed themselves of the Notes and Queries column, by which means much interesting information on Berkshire antiquities has been forthcoming.

Mr. Cope, who for the past two years has been associated with Mr. Ditchfield in the editorship of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal, has been recently appointed editor of the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archæological Society, and also one of that club's local secretaries. All members of the Berks Society will wish him well in this new appointment. Mr. Cope will, however, still continue joint editor with Mr. Ditchfield of the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal.

OBITUARY.

Since our last annual meeting death has removed the following from our list: Dr. Fairbank, F.S.A., the Rev. H. Gwilliam, the Right Hon. G. W. Palmer, Mr. Martin John Sutton, Mr. J. T. Strange, Mr. S. Wheeler, Mr. J. G. Wyly, Mr. W. Keep, and Mr. E. Margrett. All these will be much missed from our meetings. They all took an especial interest in the work of the Society and in the history and antiquities of the County.

MEMBERS.

During the past year 17 members joined, while 5 have resigned,

the total number of subscribers being 140. From this Report it will be seen that the Society has not spent an idle year. By the lectures given during the Winter Session it has been able to spread a great deal of information connected not only with the antiquities of our County, but on antiquarian subjects generally. The excursions have been the means of introducing to the members many places of interest which probably they would not otherwise have seen. The large number of members who have attended the recent lectures and who have taken part in the summer excursions prove a keen interest in the work of the Society, and that there are many within the County who are anxious to obtain a knowledge of its history and antiquities. All members are asked to make known the Berkshire Archæological Society to their friends and help to obtain new members and to enlist fresh subscribers to the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæological Journal, remembering that the financial support given helps to keep the Society and the Journal up to the very high standard to which both have now arrived.

The Hon. Treasurer reports as follows :—"The balance sheet is not satisfactory. More members are urgently needed. The cash in hand on Dec. 31st, 1913, was 12s. 3d. There are liabilities outstanding of about £42. Our rent, rates and taxes cost us about £30 per year. Besides this charge there is that of the caretaker, lighting, fuel, etc., which amounts to about another £20, in addition to which there are printing expenses and hire of the lantern. The subscriptions for 1912-13 came to £35 4s. 6d. We need nearly double the number of members to place the Society in a satisfactory position."



Treasurer's Report for Annual Meeting, April 28th, 1914.

CASH STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1913.

Receipts.		Expenses.	
1913.	£ s. d.	1913.	£ s. d.
Cash in hand, January 1st, 1913	... 5 12 2	Paid Caretaker	... 8 17 11½
By Subscriptions for 1912 ...	... 2 15 6	Wood, Coal and Gas Accounts	... 8 15 10
" " 1913 ...	... 32 9 0	Rents, Rates and Taxes	... 22 13 0
Hire of Rooms for 1912 ...	... 2 0 0	Cost of Lectures, Lanterns, etc.	... 5 9 11½
" " 1913 ...	... 18 15 0	Postage, Carriage of Parcels, Telegrams, etc.	4 3 0
		Printing, Advertising and Treasurer's Exps.	10 19 6
		Cash in hand, December 31st, 1913	... 0 13 3
	<u>£61 11 8</u>		<u>£61 11 8</u>

Audited and Correct

W. R. MORRIS,

22, The Forbury, Reading.

April 27th, 1914.



History of the Parish of Beenham.

By Mary Sharp.

(Continued from page 20.)

In 1762, on the 25th day of June, during the incumbency of Thomas Stevens, "a sudden and destructive storm of hail happened in the parishes of Sulhamstead Abbots, Padworth, Ufton and Beenham, which laid waste 700 acres and upwards of wheat, barley, oats, peas, beans and hops." This description is quoted from a Letter Patent issued by George III. to all Archbishops, Bishops and Sheriffs, authorising and exhorting them to make a collection throughout the country for the relief of the poor sufferers. In the letter the damage sustained is said to have amounted to £1143 and upwards, "and therefore in pursuance of an Act of Parliament made in the 7th year of the reign of Queen Anne for the better collecting of Charity money on briefs by Letters Patent" the King "commands all ministers and anyone who teaches and preaches in any meeting of the people called Quakers" to receive the same letter, and that the sums collected shall be delivered to agents "to see that the money be paid to the said poor sufferers." The names of the said agents were :—George Talbot, Christopher Griffith (of Padworth), Charles Perkins (of Ufton), Ralf Congreve (of Aldermaston), James Morgan (of Mortimer), Henry Lannoy Hunter (of Beech Hill) and Stephen Chase, Esquires.

A collection was made in Beenham itself according to their directions, the sum collected being 1/4d. Perhaps it was hardly to be expected that the "poor sufferers" themselves should subscribe to the relief fund. The amount required was then estimated at £7040. It is noticeable that no name of any landowner or lord of the manor of Beenham occurs in the list of trustees. Philip Lybbe Powys of Hardwicke, held the Great Tithes of the living at this time in right of his wife, daughter and heiress of Mrs. Girle, but he probably resided on his own property on the banks of the Thames. Mrs. Zinzan was then living at Beenham House, perhaps as a

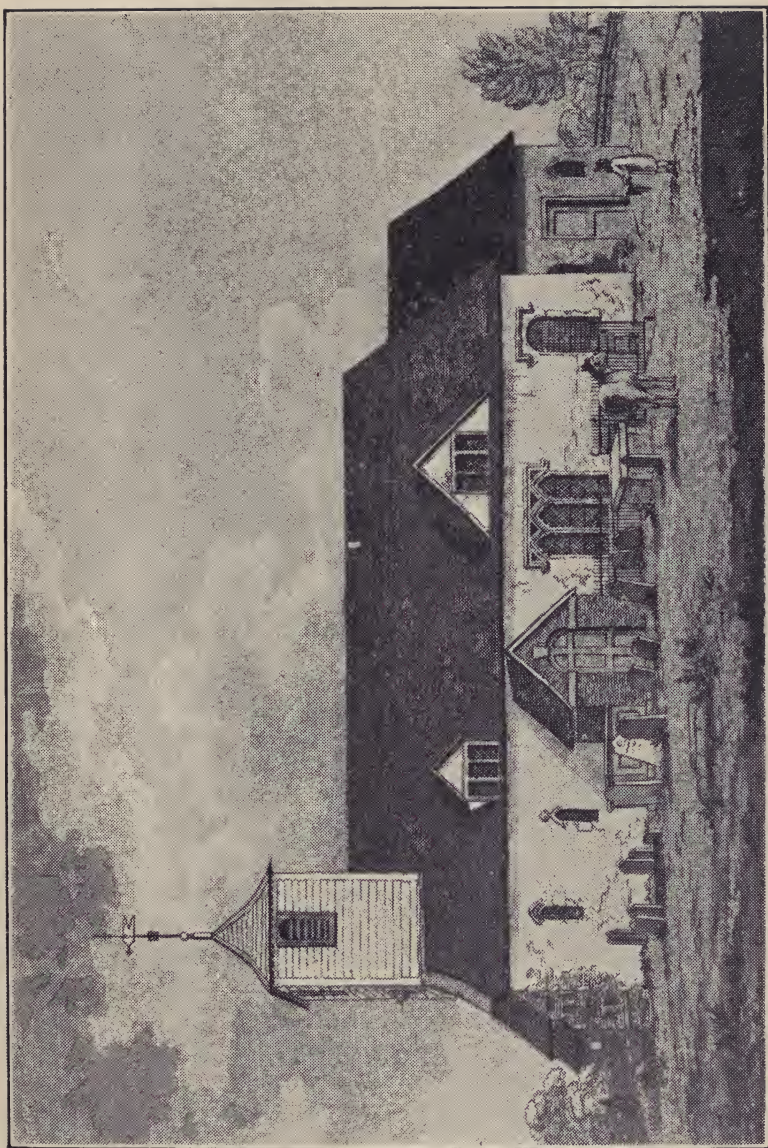
tenant only, for the estate was the property of Dr. John Bostock, Rector of Windsor, who also was most likely absent ; all which may perhaps account for the small help received from the people of the village.

In 1787 an unknown person gave a small freehold consisting of four tenements with a plot of ground adjoining, containing about 3 roods 37 poles, as it is stated on a notice board in the Church "for the sole intent and purpose of repairing and beautifying the Parish Church of Beenham from the annual produce of the same for ever ; in testimony of the above gift and in pursuance of an order from the Archdeacon of Berks at his personal visitation. . . . This record to be hung up in the Parish Church aforesaid."

(Signed) WM. ROBINSON }
T. SMALLBONES } Churchwardens.

The person unknown is supposed to have been a former church bell-ringer.

Dr. John Douglas was the next vicar (appointed in 1788), and it was during his tenure of office that another misfortune befell the parish. On a Sunday, July 6th, in 1793, the old Church, dating probably from the 12th century, was destroyed. The wooden belfry was struck by lightning, the bells were melted and the fire spread to the nave which was burnt to the ground, only the chancel remained standing. From a re-production of an old print, here given, it will be seen that the architectural merits of the building at the time of its destruction were not great. The frequent changes of patrons and wealthy landowners in the parish was probably the reason why no one generation had cared much for the repair and decoration of their church. The porch, probably of the date of William and Mary, was of brick ; a fairly good Tudor window is shown on the south side and the hood of another further east. Perhaps it was because the mullions of this last were out of repair that the window itself had been replaced by one with a plain round head of the same date as that of the porch ; and in the chancel there were two small Early English lights. To this, a few details as to the interior can be added from the recollection of the writer of what was still to be seen belonging to the old church in 1852 in the building which replaced it after the fire. Inside the porch there was an obtusely pointed doorway, in which hung a fine perpendicular oaken door with triple cusped panels. Unfortunately, to suit the necessity of a low organ, or singers' gallery, which was put up in the Church in later times, the upper part of the door had been nailed to the wall



BEENHAM CHURCH.

above it and sawn off, so that the doorway was made to be square headed. The splays of the lancet windows in the chancel had been painted. This was proved by an energetic curate, once left in charge, who began carefully to scrape away the covering whitewash ; but before anything more than a few faint lines of colour were disclosed, a vigilant and indignant churchwarden forbade the investigation, and insisted, moreover, that the culprit should at his own expense re-whitewash the surface. The painting, therefore, whether of seraph or saint, or merely pattern, never again saw the light of day. A Brass in memory of William Carter, Gentleman, has been already mentioned ; what was probably its matrix still remained in a slab of the pavement of the narrow gangway of the Church in 1852, just opposite the door of the squire's square pew, though the metal, as being worth money, had then disappeared. Even the empty matrix, however, had its interest, but when inquired after in later times no one knew what had become of it. In the enthusiasm of the early days of revival of church building such trifling records of past ages were overlooked ; but this concerns the third Church of Beenham and is anticipating history.

When the Parishioners, the Ministers and the Churchwardens found that their Church was gone, they sent round a letter, on their own account this time, to the neighbouring towns and villages, expressing their earnest desire that their parish church should be rebuilt and rendered "fit for them to assemble therein for divine worship as speedily and conveniently as may be ; but, forasmuch as the expenses of doing the same will, according to the estimate of an able and experienced workman, amount to the sum of £600 and upwards, the petitioners are desirous to accept from charitable and well disposed persons such donations and voluntary contributions as they may think proper for, or towards, the re-building of the said Church." Certainly no petition could be more delicately worded, and though this time it was not supported by any Royal letter or command, yet the result was perhaps as satisfactory as the last and even more so. The whole sum collected amounted to £579 14s. 11½d., exclusive of £239 7s. 2d.—the cost of a new peal of six bells, towards which sum the Beenham ringers subscribed £2 11s. 6d.

The Rev. John Bostock, Vicar of Windsor, who was living at Beenham House at the time, with his younger brother, Sir Charles Rich, added £100 to the subscribed sum, and wrote the following kindly letter to Dr. Douglas alluding to the occasion :—"January 15th, 1795. Dear Sir,—I set out this morning to call upon you but

found the wind so strong and cold and my workmen alarmed me so much with accounts of the ice on the pond that I gave up the point. The method you propose to take to relieve the poor seems to be a very good one ; if they are not out of work through the severe weather, in my opinion it is the best that can be adopted. If the hard weather breaks up soon and the many that are out of work can return to their labour I shall propose to apply the remainder of our subscription at Windsor (which is a large one) to that use. I think it very advisable to have the account of the subscriptions to Beenham Church printed. I flatter myself that that of New Windsor will make no despicable figure, it amounts to £17 10s. and I hope some few that I have not met with will increase it. I have received likewise the subscription from Old Windsor, it amounts to 8s. which I will likewise be answerable for. I mean to give 5 guineas to your fund for lowering the price of bread to the poor. I shall be happy to see when the account is printed that many parishes exceed New Windsor, but I have my doubts. Mr. Nind, whom I saw accidentally, told me his subscription for the church amounted to £2 7s. If I can see you to-morrow I will, but I return early to Reading on my way to Windsor. Mrs. Bostock joins in compliments to Mrs. D. and Mrs. Webb.

I am, etc., J. BOSTOCK.

I enclose £23 3s. I hope your rheumatism and other complaints will soon leave you."

The immensely decreased value of money within the last hundred years is forcibly brought home to us by the fact here recorded that at the close of the 18th century it was thought possible to build a church for the sum of £600. It is true that rather more was collected, and it is said that, in consequence, the architect, who in his estimate had only provided for square headed windows, finding there was money to spare, most liberally altered his plans and made them round headed. It is also true that the building when finished was of the most meagre description, but it satisfied the requirements of an age which as yet felt no craving for any outward manifestations of the beauty of holiness. The tower of the present Church, except for the west window, is as it was built in the year 1800, and the nave of the Church was to match. The little chancel, with its narrow lancet windows, alone remained of the original fabric.

Mr. Robert Baker succeeded Dr. Douglas in 1808, but resigned the living two years later in favour of Mr. John Bushnell, still by the presentation of Mrs. Mary Stevens. At her death she bequeathed

the advowson to him and it has remained the property of the representatives of his family ever since. Mr. Bushnell at the same time held a Lectureship at Thatcham and he seems to have kept in touch with his University of Oxford, as he paid frequent visits there and on one occasion went up to preach a sermon at St. Mary's. He was fond of music and subscribed liberally to the local concerts and paid for a clarionet for the Beenham choir, for there was a village band for the Church music in those days. The band, however, may have fallen off in numbers, for eventually he provided an organ and altered the gallery to receive it. In the same year a Vestry was built at his suggestion and mainly at his expense, assisted by a subscription from the parish of £20. In 1814 he and his wife contributed towards the cost of Feasts at Beenham and Thatcham in celebration of the Peace, and the following year they subscribed to a fund raised in these parishes for the sufferers at Waterloo. He died in 1839. A tablet was put up to his memory in Beenham Church with this inscription: "To the memory of the Rev. John Bushnell, nine and twenty years Vicar of this Parish. Obit. 5th Sept., 1839. Ætat 53. Also Sarah his wife, who fell asleep April 4th, 1888, aged 90."

NOTE.—The Rev. W. D. Macray, D.D., writes: In the translation at page 20, April number, "A.S." does not stand for "Old Style," which is impossible in October; but for "Anno Salutaris." The translation should be "From this life, by the welcome exchange of another, being released from his body he departed" . . . "in the year of Salvation."

(To be continued.)

The Shiplake Virtuoso.

By Emily J. Climenson.

(Continued from page 28.)

This famous dog was on April 3rd, 1778, a subject of conversation at the "Literary Club," the dog was then offered for sale, *vide* Boswell's "Life of Johnson":—

"F" (said to be Lord Upper Ossory): "I have been looking

at the famous antique dog of Mr. Jennings' valued at a 1,000 guineas, said to be Alcibiades' dog."

Dr. Johnson: "His tail then must be docked; that was the mark of Alcibiades' dog."

E. Burke: "A thousand guineas! the representation of no animal whatever is worth so much! At this rate a dead dog would indeed be better than a live lion!"

Dr. Johnson: "Sir, it is not the worth of the thing but of the skill in forming it which is so highly estimated. Everything that enlarges the sphere of human power, that shows a man can do what he thought he could not do, is valuable. The first man who balanced a straw on his nose, who rode upon three horses at a time; in short, all such men deserve the applause of mankind not on account of the use of what they did, but of the dexterity which they exhibited."

The dog is said to have been discovered at Monte Cagnuola, and to be the work of Myron, a celebrated Greek sculptor. This dog is now in the hall at Duncombe Park, the property of Lord Feversham, whose ancestor, the Honourable Charles Duncombe, bought it. When I had published my "History of Shiplake" in 1894, my husband wrote to the Rev. C. N. Gray, Vicar of Helmsley, to inquire about the dog, here is his answer:—

"February 26th, 1894.

"Dear Sir,—The dog as I know to my cost, for I had a terrible job with others, was got out of the first fire 15 years ago. Some of the men working under me had given him up as a bad job, but knowing the value, I insisted that we must try and slide him out. When lo! the pedestal turned out to be wood, sham stone, and we got him slid on to the top of the steps outside with great difficulty, and there covered him up. If it had been stone I do not know what we should have done, as the fire was raging in the next room. The 'Quoit Thrower' was next, and his weight was great. Since that they have been in the York Exhibition, and so escaped this second dose (the second fire at Duncombe Park). They are there now. The new central part of the house will be before long ready for them again; only, unfortunately, they are making the hall about half the size, still there will be lots of room for 't' Dawg' as we say in Yorkshire.—Yours truly, C. N. Gray."

Mr. Gray has only recently died. Many other pieces of sculpture, etc., were sent over to England by Mr. Jennings to his mother's

care at Shiplake, amongst them a bronze bust of Venus, said to be by the hand of Praxiteles. This was the chief treasure and only shown to those people he deemed *presentable*. This bust was kept in an iron chest "in which his divinity was enshrined, and he approached it brandishing the key in a peculiar manner and applied it to the lock with a certain degree of reverence." Not only did he collect statuary, but books, manuscripts, pictures, prints, miniatures, carvings, and shells. Of the latter he had a peculiarly fine collection, one Harp shell cost him £120, for three less valuable specimens he gave £90.

In 1765 Mr. Jennings married a Miss Juliana Atkinson, but where the marriage took place is not known. The next year 1766 Mr. Jennings' money troubles began, a King's Bench summons was issued against him, and his great grandson says already Shiplake was heavily mortgaged. In 1768 a son was born to him "at the Red Lion Hotel whilst on a journey" is his note to this, but whether at Henley or elsewhere not stated. Probably this child was put out to nurse as many were at that period, but no mention of his death is made in the Shiplake registers. On Oct. 31st, 1769, Mrs. Jennings died, "wife of Henry Constantine Jennings of Wargrave, Berks, was buried at Shiplake." Probably he was renting Wargrave Hill from Mr. Hill (Cowper's friend), who up to the time of his marriage in 1771 did not reside there often. Mr. Jennings had sold his pack of hounds he kept at Shiplake to Lord Barrymore. At the time of Mrs. Jennings' death, Mr. Jennings was again in great pecuniary trouble and was borrowing money; he now consolidated his debts into one large amount to Sir Charles Raymond, of Valentines, Essex. In 1774 the death of his rich old uncle, John Jennings, at Piddletrenthide, Dorset, relieved his distress, as he left him the estate—some 3,800 acres. This estate he sold to a Mr. Cox, of London. He now with his other extravagances bought a horse brought from Bombay for 300 guineas. This horse was supposed to be a Cappadocian horse of the celebrated Bagdad breed. Mr. Jennings named it "Chillaby" after William III. famous white barb. He was a most vicious animal. Our hero now hired a house and 80 acres of land at South Weald, Essex, as his future breeding stable, and bought a number of brood mares. By 1806 this establishment cost him £10,000! Near South Weald lived two Miss Nowells. The eldest, Elizabeth Catherine Nowell, was only seventeen, her father was dead and had left her a large fortune with the condition in his will that whoever she married was to take the name

of Nowell. This suited Mr. Jennings in many ways, he persuaded her to run away with him in 1777, and they were married at Haddington, N.B. Mr. Jennings became Mr. Jennings Nowell by virtue of the will. At the end of 1777 his troubles began again, he was arrested for debt and lodged in the Fleet prison, from whence he was removed to the King's Bench. He got out of prison by selling part of his collection. "The Dog" was put up but bought in. After he left prison he retired to Havering Bower and recommenced collecting curiosities with redoubled energy. By his second marriage he had three children, only one survived, Elizabeth, who married William Lock of Norbury Park, near Leatherhead. About 1783, being again in difficulties Mr. Jennings Nowell found himself in Chelmsford jail, where he remained for some years. Mrs. Nowell who with her little girl had taken refuge with her mother and sister-in-law then living at Shiplake House, now sued Mr. Jennings for maintenance and a mutual separation was agreed upon, she retaining the name of Nowell, he reverting *legally* to Jennings. He, however, for convenience for himself used the name of Nowell, dropping Jennings entirely when it suited him, as can be seen in the Shiplake parish books !

And now as to his personal appearance. His portrait in Wilson's "Wonderful Characters" by R. Cooper, is not unpleasing ; he is represented in a great coat, and an odd little round soft hat turned up in front, a stick under his arm, gazing at a Classical print ; a somewhat lengthy aquiline nose set in a long face, with broad forehead, and a pleasant laughter-loving mouth is far from repellent. He was thin, and as he grew older stooped a good deal ; was fond of throwing stones up to his stick, never failing to hit them away falling. As he remained some years in Chelmsford jail, he probably then acquired some of his curious after-habits from the feeling of want of exercise ; one was to drill before retiring to rest, with a ponderous wooden instrument capped at each end with lead, with the exercise of which he put a genial warmth in him before sleeping. In the morning he was an early riser, and in his own words : "Flourishing my broad sword exactly three hundred times, I then mount my chaise horse, composed of leather and inflated with wind like a bellows, on which I take exactly one thousand gallops !" Before his residence in prison at Chelmsford, and subsequently he composed several pamphlets, of which there are copies in the British Museum, and they are ably written. Besides these pamphlets he wrote an octavo volume, entitled "Moral and Historical Memoirs"

by H. J. C. Jennings, printed for "Edward and Charles Dilly in the Poultry, 1779." There is no doubt that he knew nearly all the best people in Society, and the cleverest in literature and art as well. With Mrs. Montagu the "bas bleu," he was acquainted, and paid her this compliment: "It may be objected to the above reflections that perhaps we could boast at no period of a greater number of female writers than at present; yet we should consider there is but one Mrs. Montagu; the rest, notwithstanding their merit, are of inferior rank and condition." His mother dying Sept. 5th, 1791, he came into her jointure of £800 a year and a third of her West Indian property at Mondego Bay. This enabled him to emerge from prison and take possession of Shiplake House, in which his mother and sister had been living. His sister Susannah retired to London. He now commenced his third collection of curiosities! Fresh pecuniary trouble arising, Mr. Jennings offered Shiplake Court to Mr. Elisha Biscoe for £40,000, who refused it and bought Holton Park near Oxford instead. Mr. Biscoe had been renting Shiplake Court for some years. In 1804 the estate was offered by Mr. Andrews of Reading, and Batten & Anstice of St. George's, Westminster, and sold to a Mr. Hamilton, who quickly resold it to a Mr. William Newell, a yeoman farmer. Mr. Jennings was now living in Lindsey Row, Chelsea. A gentleman who visited him in 1803, describes him thus: "He sat enthroned in all the majesty of virtue, amidst his books, his pictures and his shells." In 1816 he was again in the King's Bench, when most of his collection was sold including "The Dog" for £1,000. He now lived, still under the rules of the prison, in Belvedere Place, St. George's-in-the-Fields, where he died on February 7th, 1819, and was buried at St. Margaret's, Westminster, ætat 88.

Lord Wallscourt and the late Lady Walsingham were his direct descendants from his one surviving child Elizabeth, wife of William Lock, of Norbury Park.





Sandhurst, Berks.

*By Capt. G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.*

(Continued from page 25, Vol. 20.)

CHAPTER III.

THE FOREST.

From the Conquest to the year 1813 Sandhurst had the distinction of being within the bounds of the Royal Forest of Windsor, the Broadforde river (the Blackwater), which marks the southern limit of the parish, being also the Forest boundary. Nearly all the Kings and Queens of England since the time of Edward the Confessor must have followed the chase through our parish at one time or another. Edward III. had a hunting box at Easthampstead, which was frequently occupied by members of the Royal Family up to Elizabeth's reign, and in the sixteenth century a keeper's lodge was established at Bigshotte Rayles, the park of which extended into Sandhurst parish and was well stocked with deer. The long straight rides, now many of them overgrown, which radiate from different points in the neighbourhood, bear witness to the royal interest in hunting. It is said that Queen Anne, when too gouty to mount a horse, used to pursue the stag in her chariot at a furious pace along these forest roads. In later years George the Third was frequently hunting round Sandhurst, and there is a local tradition that on one occasion, having been caught in the rain after following hounds beyond the Blackwater, he sought refuge in Yateley mill.* The miller was a surly old man, and, not recognising the King, refused to have anything to do with him. The situation was saved by the tact of the miller's wife, and the King went home

* There is no longer a mill at Yateley. One of the last of the Yateley millers came somewhat prominently before the public when he emptied the contents of his shot gun into a Wellington big-side paper chase which was crossing his fields.

in the miller's clothes. We hear of King George on another occasion, full of kindness, but terribly fussy, over an accident which befell a certain Mr. Parry in Bigshot Park, "who by his horse falling in the rabbit burrows pitched upon his head and the horse rolling over him so bruised and disfigured him as to render him a dreadful spectacle without the least sign of life." Mr. Taplin, surgeon, of Wokingham, had just joined the chase, and the unfortunate gentleman was at once bled with the happiest results. His Majesty witnessed the operation, and before leaving the field "delivered to Mr. Taplin his repeated injunctions that no one circumstance should be omitted which could in the smallest degree contribute to Mr. Parry's safety and recovery."†

The life of an inmate of the forest in early times was no enviable one. The Conqueror, who "loved the tall stags as though he were their father," regarded the poor inhabitants only as a nuisance, and the ferocity of his game laws has become a byeword. But with the thirteenth century came a change. Among the abuses corrected by Magna Charta were those connected with the administration of the royal forests, and the reforms forced on King John were confirmed by his successor. We find, therefore, that in later days life in the forest was not without its compensations. From the beginning private individuals either possessed or acquired land in Windsor Forest. The great religious houses also held property there, as in our case the monastery of Chertsey, which had, besides Sandhurst, several other manors. But the right of ownership was considerably curtailed by the special laws for the preservation of vert and venison. It was contrary to the assize of the forest to put up a building of any kind or a fence without the king's permission, or to cut down a tree or fell a copse. In certain cases, however, enough wood might be allowed for actual expenditure on the estate. In the lease by the Crown to William Braconbury of Sandhurst Manor, in the reign of Henry VIII., it was stipulated that the tenant should be allowed "sufficient hedgebote, ploughbote, cartebote, and fyrebote, at the assignment of the surveyor, to be expended in and upon the premises and nowhere else."

Common rights were also affected by the forest laws. The right of the freeholders to pasture their sheep and cattle all over the waste of the forest was recognised by the Crown in the reign of Edward VI. and successfully maintained in that of Charles I., but this privi-

† "Reading Mercury," Oct. 6th, 1787.

lege was always suspended in the fence month, the fortnight before and after Midsummer Day, which was the close season for the deer. The right seems to have been a very ancient one, and without it the small farmer could not have existed. Before the great enclosure of the forest the inhabitants maintained at but little expense to themselves a small ragged breed of sheep which was raised on the heath. Every year these sheep were driven in large flocks into Buckinghamshire to be folded on the fallows, and when fatted at two or three years they produced the little Bagshot mutton which had a considerable reputation.* The right to cut peat, turf, heather and fern was really confined to the Lord of the Manor, but was at a later period claimed and exercised by the tenants generally. Of browse-wood and rootage mention will be made later. As time went on the administration of the forest laws became very lax. All the rights of common were extended and enclosures and encroachments on the waste were made by private individuals with impunity. As regards the game it would appear that after the forest charter of Henry III., poachers were more leniently dealt with in the forest courts than in the court of an ordinary manor. The first two Stuarts made strenuous efforts to revive the forest laws with something of their old severity. We read, for instance, of a neighbouring squire being fined for erecting a wind-mill on his estate, "because it frightened the deer and drew company to the disquiet of the game."†

In 1607 Mr. John Norden was ordered to make a survey of the whole forest for James I., and a beautifully executed document, now among the Harleian MSS. at the British Museum, is the result of his labours. Of the fourteen walks into which the forest was divided, Sandhurst walk is one. It is found to correspond roughly to old Sandhurst parish, except that on the west it is bounded by a road leading from Yateley mill to Crowthorne, and passing between Edgbarro and Ambarro hills. The remainder of the parish forms part of Bigshotte Walk. "Crowthorne" is the name of a solitary tree at the junction of Sandhurst, Bigshotte, and Easthampstead Walks. This spot is now called Brooker's Corner. Sir Charles Howard, the keeper of the two Walks, had a lodge which is the present Ravenswood, and a park surrounded by a fence extending over the ground now occupied by the East Berks Golf

* Penny Cyclopædia, "Berkshire."

† Hughes' "History of Sunninghill."

Club. This inclosure was called Bigshotte Rayles. Adjoining the lodge was the residence of the under-keeper, a man named Hankyn.*

There were then in Sandhurst Walk 70 red deer, 32 of antler, and 12 stags. The roads shown are the present road leading out of the great western road near Blackwater through the village and branching at the bottom of the Rectory hill, northwards to the Church, and southwards over the river to Yateley. The road already mentioned from Yateley mill to Crowthorne. A third road from the Church north-east over Long Down and Rush Hills just south of Windmill Stem to join one connecting Easthampstead and Frimley and crossing the north-east corner of the parish. The following places are shown either in or on the boundary of the parish :—Amboro Hill, Beech Hills (the Ridges), Blackwater, Crowthorne, East Mill Forde, Edgeboro Hill, Gravell Hill, Hurt Hedges, Kit Holes Bottom, Lodg Hills (Broadmoor), Long Down, Perry Moor Cops (near East Mill Ford), Queenstanding Hill (near the present site of the R.M.C.), Rush Hills, Shelbred Hills, Smallbrook Moore, Vylemoor, Whitemoor Wood, Windmill Stem, Wishmore Stream, Woodley Corner (where the last joins the Blackwater), Yateley Mill. "Other places of note and name there are," he writes, "within euerie walke no doubt, whereof of meere igrnance or wilful negligence the keepers coulde not informe me more than in this table is observed. There is contention betwene euerie neighbour keeper for the most parte for usurpation and intruding one into another's walkes, for not one of them trulie knoweth his owne boundes."

There is a large collection of Swainmote Court Rolls about this period in the Public Record Office, including several for Finchampstead bailiwick. Offences against the forest laws were dealt with at a special Assize held by the Justices in Eyre for the forest, or at Inquisitions held by the local officers under their direction. The Swainmote was an inferior Court held three or four times in the year in different bailiwicks in turn, to which all the freeholders owed service. Two forest officials called the Verderers presided, and received,

* From this name the house no doubt acquired the name of Hannican's Lodge, by which it was known in later years. The post of under-keeper remained long in the family. In the Treasury Accounts for 1736-7, on March 23rd Robert Hannington, formerly under-keeper of Bigshotte Rayles, Augustine Hannington, sen., same of Sandhurst Walk, and Augustine Hannington, jun., same of Easthampstead Walk and vermin-killer, were allowed £44 19s. 9½d. arrears of salary from 1713, Dec. 17th to Aug. 1st, on salaries as such under Queen Anne. A Robert Hannington, described as the "antient keeper of Bigshotte Lodge," had been buried at Finchampstead in 1727.

investigated, and recorded the presentments made by the foresters, woodwards, and tithingmen of the different villages for the information of the Justices at the next Eyre.† The Courts for Finchampstead bailiwick were held at Wokingham, and from the court rolls the names of a large number of officials and inhabitants of the neighbourhood can be obtained. On September 29th, 1586, for example, those present were the Verderers, Richard Lovelace and Thomas Bullocke, Esqrs., Sir Henry Nevile, the Riding Forester of the whole forest, a representative of the Earl of Leicester as Constable of Windsor and Chief Forester of the bailiwick, John Atrith, Thomas Cheslake and Francis Broughton, Sub-Foresters in Bigshotte, Sandhurst and Easthampstead Walks respectively, Humphrey Staverton and Thomas Bullocke, the Keepers of Easthampstead and Bearwood Walks, the Woodwardes of Bearwood, Farley Moor and Finchampstead Woods, the Regarders, fourteen in number, selected from the neighbouring gentry, representatives of Wokingham with Yenyndon, Finchampstead, Easthampstead, Sandhurst, Barkham, Newland, and Swallowfield with Farley Hill, and sixteen jurors, who testified on oath to the truth of the presentments made. The proceedings of the Court included, besides the registration of vert offences against the assize of the forest, a kind of inquest on any deer found dead since the last Court, and on the mode of disposal of the bodies; heath or timber burnt; and dilapidations in the various walks in the bailiwick. The following are a few extracts from the original presentments attached to the Court Rolls:—

1586. "We do psent Est Mill bridge both for carte and horse and that Grene Mill bridge is a bridge for horse and are bothe in defaulte all within the Queen's Majestie's payle as fare as we can fynde. All thynge else is well to owre knowledge within our charge. Sept. the sixth 1586."

WILLIAM COXE, Tithyngman of Sandhurst.

RAFE BULLOCK,

THOS. ALEXANDER, } Sydemen.

WILL. GIBLET,

The Regarder's presentment.

"Item one hynd calf recorded by Francis Broughton Keeper of Byg-

† The minor forest courts were properly the swainmote court held three times a year, and the attachment court held every 40 days. Though of a different origin, the swainmote of these times was practically the same as the attachment court, and the two terms were used interchangeably. In the matter of venison trespass the lesser courts had originally no jurisdiction, though in later times pledges were often taken for the appearance of the trespassers at the next eyre. They were mainly concerned with "vert" offences. (See Cox: "The Royal Forests of England." Turner: "Select Pleas of the Forest.")

shot Walk in the Bayliwick of Finchampstead the 23rd of June and had his shoulder broken. How it was bestowed we know not.

"Item one hynd found dead in Sandhurst in Thomas Cheslake's Walke in August last without any wound that could be seen and the flesh stank that no body could abyde it." ("Rare putrida erat," as the clerk described it).

1589. Do.

Item a pcell. of heath contayning c acres betwene Wickham Bushes in the parish of Easthampstead and Hurt Heggess Sandhurst burned in April last, by whom we knowe not.

1607. Do.

Item we present iij coppes in Sandhurst felled by Richard Geale and John Geale called Hall Grove, Perry Moor, and Harrisse Moor by estimation xxx acres by what warrant we knowe not.

1608. The presentment of William Smith, under-keeper in Sandhurst Walk.

Item one stagge which died the xxiiith of June and found by the keeper and viewed by Humphrey Taylor one of the Regarders and others but noe hurt that could be founde upon him.

Item that on Saturday the xvith of this instant September there was one stag killed in Sandhurst Walke by vertue of the Justices in Oyer's warrant.

Item I doe present Martin Shonke for driving and fetching his cattell dwelling in Hampshire to the great disturbance of his Matie's game there within the Forest.

Item I present Thos. Gye for taking in one peece of his Matie's waste making a brick* clamme there within the same to the annoyance of his Matie's game there, by what authority I know not.

by me WILLIAM SMITH.

1627. The Tithyngman and Sideman's presentment at the Swainmote Court held at Oakingham the xixth day of Sept. 1627.

"In primis" we present a barne newe erected by John Deane of Sandhurst upon the waste, by what authority we know not.

Item we present that there is no pound within our parish to put any waifs and straies in or to put any cattell which should do trespass to any neighbours, and for any other thinge concerneinge our charge all is well for ought we know.

JOHN Y. CLARKE tithyngman.

JOHN A ATRITHE sideman.

1654. The Regarder's presentment.

"Item we present Steven Heathe for cuttinge of turves after the feast of S. Jeames' daie in the parish of Sandhurst who hath been forbid bi the keeper and took awaie his iorn, yet notwithstanding he procured other iorns and wolde not give over cuttinge."

[In this year the neighbouring parishes of Wokingham and Finchampstead built poor houses on the waste.]

* Brick burning in open clamps frequently gives rise to a nuisance. The green bricks are mixed with a small proportion of ashes or other débris, such as household refuse, and arranged in layers alternating with breeze so as to form a pile. The breeze is then set alight by small coal or wood fires, and the products of combustion are extremely noxious.

1633. "Wee do present William Chambers dwelling in Sandhurst for cutting of trees and selling them to the town of Wokingham contrary to the assize of the forest."

[At the same Court a number of inhabitants of Wokingham were presented for keeping mastiffs. This was forbidden by the forest law unless they were "lawed," that is, deprived of the three claws of the fore feet, in order to prevent them chasing game.]

The wild nature of our forest country not unnaturally had its influence on the character of its inhabitants, and Sandhurst Common formed a convenient refuge for highwaymen and outlaws of every description. During the seventeenth century the names of Duval, Old Mobb, Captain Stafford, Whitney the Butcher, the Golden Farmer, and many others now forgotten were familiar in the neighbourhood.* Close to our borders, near Wishmore Cross, a little mound now marks the site of a gibbett where some unfortunate person doubtless hung in chains in past days.† Perhaps it was one of the Wokingham Blacks, four of whom were executed in various parts of the forest in the first quarter of the eighteenth century. This band, at first a local society for poaching the King's deer, resorted later to outrages of a more serious description, including housebreaking and even murder. By the year 1722 they had become a dangerous gang of criminals, terrorizing the neighbourhood and levying blackmail on the farmers, apparently with complete immunity. When, however, emboldened by their success, they started reprisals on the Earl of Arran and Sir John Cope, two of the magistrates who had annoyed them, even the forest officials began to think that something ought to be done.

The Keeper of Bigshot and Sandhurst Walks at this time was Colonel Negus, a soldier who had done good service under Marlborough and had retired to take up several Court appointments and become a Member of Parliament. He was, however, best known to posterity as the inventor of a once popular beverage. The lodge at Bigshot Rails being in a bad state of repair he had taken up his residence in London, and from this strategical position he issued his orders. It seems, however, to have been chiefly due to a subordinate official called Baptist Nunn that the final capture and conviction of the gang was effected. When the latter rendered his account of expenses extending over a period of eighteen months it

* For an account of their exploits see Alexander Smith, "A History of the Most Noted Highwaymen." Also Berks Arch. Journal, vol. 15, p. 116. But the old histories are vague and not very reliable. There is a good account of Duval in the Dict. of Nat. Biog.

† The place is marked "Upper Star Post" in the 6in. O.M.

was in the form of a diary of some fourteen pages containing a detailed account of the dangers and difficulties he experienced, the first at the hands of the Blacks, the second from the dilatoriness of the authorities at headquarters.†

† Treasury Papers, v. ccxliv., No. 63. P.R.O.

(*To be continued.*)

Early Berkshire Wills, from the P.C.C., ante 1558.

(*Continued from Vol. 7, page 30.*)

Transcribed by Mr. Tudor Sherwood.

171.

The Will of WILLIAM COLLEY thelder of Burwescotte.—17 Oct., 1552. I bequeathe to every of my sonnes and doughters by my first wief (except John and Robert) ten shepe, and to eyther of the said John and Robert I give thirtie shepe. I give unto George my sonne one hundreth pounds. Unto Annes and Joane my doughters by Katheryn my wief to every of them fyftie poundes at 21 or marriage. Unto Robert Hardyng my shepperde of lynte and to Willym Sturte sundry bequests. I bequeath unto Katheryn my wief my lease of the Manor of Burwescotte held of Thomas Bekynggham Esquire, deceased. Wife Katheryn sole executrix. Alexander Phetiplace, John Yate, Thoby Pleydell and Thomas Stephyns, gent., overseers. To John Haywarde my sonne-in-lawe two kyne.

Witnesses, Henry Wynman, John Rodlay, curat ther, Willyam Brodnam, Symon Blagrove, William Elys, Thomas Gerynge, John Colley, Robert Colley, Willyam Davis, John Davis, John Grene, John Clifton, Thomas Edmunds, Willyam Sturte, John Yate, Thoby Pleydell, Edward Snodman, John Heywarde.

Proved 9 July, 1553, by Edward Snodnam, attorney, for the executrix. (15, Tashe.)

172.

The Will of WILLIAM COLYN of Newbury, fuller.—14 March, 1459. To Katherine my wife my house in Newbury, &c. To

Juliana my mother x^s. &c. To Nicholas Manwell, William Wigge, Thomas Turner my servant, John Wyks, sundry bequests. To Sir Roger Chesshir, rector of St. Mary, Wolnoth, xx^d. To the wife of John Wormesdale, Thomas Greche of Cheryngton, Thomas Curteys my servant, John Bedford, John Gifford and Vincent Walter, sundry bequests. The Residue to my wife Katherine, she and Thomas Love of Newbury, fuller, executors.

Witnesses, Sir Roger Chesshir and Thomas Wellys, citizen and clothier of London.

Proved at Lamehith 18 March, 1459.

(20, Stokton.)

173.

The Will of THOMAS COLYNS of Newbery.—23 May, 1494. To be buried in the churchyard of St. Nicholas. I give to my son Thomas my filling mill in the parish of Spene. To Godelese my daughter xx^s. &c. To Agnes my daughter x^{li}. &c. To Katherine my daughter x^{li}. &c. To my wife Constance two tenements on the east side of Chepestrete in Nubery, land in Onborn field, &c. Bequests to Johanne Butteler and Agnes, daughter of Johanne Zemer. The residue to my wife Constance, sole executrix. John Hogett and John Zemer, supervisors.

Witnesses, Master John Esterfelde rector of Nubury. Sir John Bruer, William Mayhowe.

Proved at Lamehith 5 June 1494.

(11, Vox).

174.

The Will of JOHN COLSONNE of Burchefilde.—12 May, 1558. I give to William Colson my brother two kyne being in the keping of Will'm Stubbyngton of Upham. To my sister Ann Colson two kyne in the keping of my mother-in-lawe. To my brother John Colson two kyne in the keping of Mr. Richarde Ticheborne of Upham. I surrender to Mr. Nicholas Williams of Burghfelde afore-said, gentelman, to the use of my sister Anne Colson my house in Assheton and to my brother John Colson my house in Upham. The residue I give to Mrs Elizabeth Williams wif of Mr. Raynolde Will'ms of Burchfelde in the countie of Barkeshire, executrix. The said Mr. Nicholas Williams overseer.

Witnesses, Mr. Nicholas Will'ms gent., Edmund Cooper, prieste, John Norres, Chr'ofor Wilson.

Proved 5 Nov., 1558, by John Incent, notary public, attorney for the executrix.

(68, Noodes).

175.

The Will of JOHN COMBYS.—30 Nov., 1514. To be buried at Newbury. My son Richard Combys and my wife Joan Combys. My brother Thomas Combys and Joan Combys my wife. Master Roger Upton, provost of Eton, supervisor.

Witnesses, Master John Wayte, rector of Newbery, and Sir John Smyth, and Sir Richard Iremonger chaplain of Sandelforde.

Proved 1 Feb., 1514[-5].

(4, Holder).

176.

The Will of RICTARD COMPTON.—30 July, 1486. To be buried in the church of St. Andrew of Hackeburne. I give to the church of St. John the Baptist in Cirencester xx^s. To the church of Compton iijs. iiij^d. To the church of Preston iijs. iiij^d. To Alice my wife and my son John my goods &c. To Philipp Smyth and Agnes my daughter two houses in Cirencester in Diers strete called Whetoms and a messuage in Gosedich called Hopkin Barnard's. To Alice my wife and John my son a messuage &c., held of St. John of Jerusalem in England and three closes in Chesterton &c., and two messuages in London street, Reding, executors.

[No witnesses named].

Proved 15 Oct., 1486.

(26, Logge).

177.

The Will of NICHOLAS COMPTON, gentleman.—6 August, 1504. To be buried at Guldeford. Testator leaves his lands in the counties of Surrey and Berks to his wife Agnes.

Proved at Lamehith 22 Oct., 1504.

(17, Holgrove).

178.

The Will of GEORGE COOKE of Hungerford.—10 June, 1502. To be buried in the church of Hungerford w^hin oure Lady Ile. To Master Bayly, to John Bailey, to my wife's daughters, sundry bequests. To Katherine my wife all my lands &c., in Westcote. My cousin John Walron, Thomas Walron of Bristowe, Robert Howard. Katherine my wife executrix. Thomas Brynsdon my brother-in-law to be overseer.

[Witnesses not given].

Proved at Lamehith 14 Sept., 1502.

(16, Blamyr).

179.

The Will of SIR ROBERT CORBET, senr., knight.—[Septbr., 1404]. Friday before the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To be buried in the church of Mercham. I give to Matilda my wife all my moveable goods in the Manor of Tobbeney after the expenses of my funeral and my debts are paid. I give to Elizabeth my daughter all my other goods towards her marriage. My said wife and John Winton executors.

[No witnesses named].

Proved 26 January, 1404[-5] by John Winton. Power reserved
etc. (8, Marche).

180.

The Will of ROBERT COOK of Makeney co. Berks.—18 April, 1509. To be buried in the Conventuall church of Walingforde above the ymage of our Lady the virgyn towards the high awter there. To the Prior of Walinford for the grounde of my sepulture xx^s. To the p'she church of Brightwell x^s. I give towards the reparacon of the brigge of Walingforde vj^{li}. xiiij^s. iiij^d. Unto Johane my wyf my place at Makeney for life and I make her and Nicholas Molens of Clyfford's Inne myn executours. Remainder of the Manor of Makeney to the said Nicholas and his heirs and for want of such heirs to William Molens, elder brother of the said Nicholas and his heirs, and for want of such heirs remainder to Thomas Molyneux the sonne of Hugh Molyneux and Agnes his wyfe of Cranborne co. Dorset, and his heirs. To John Wilkinson my servant the profits of my land at Huntercombend in the p'she of Nuffeld for lyfe. To John Power, Alexander Dyksonne, to Johane Moleyns apprentice in London towards hir marriage, sundry bequests.

Witnesses, Richard Hampden, Andrew Kene, John Wilkynson, William Pope, Robert Kene, Robert Wodye, John Uppatonne.

Proved at Lamethith 3 July 1509 by Nicholas Moleyns and Johane the relict. (15, Bennett).

181.

The Will of WALTER COWPER of Boxford,* senior.—18 Aug., 1495. I give to Katherine my wife my house called Cupys in Boxford. The residue to my sons Thomas and John.

[No witnesses named].

Proved at Lamethith 18 Nov., 1495.

(27, Vox).

* Qy., Berks or Suffolk.

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Fig. 31. From the North East



SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



Fig. 32. South Side

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Fig. 33. Interior looking East

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig. 34. North Side of Chancel, Tomb of John de Bleobury and
Easter Sepulchre

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig. 35. The Chancel Arch

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig. 37. Window, South Side of Nave

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig. 38. The Font and Tower Arch

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig 39. The South Doorway

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig. 40. Detail of South Doorway

SHELLINGFORD CHURCH



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Fig. 41. South Chancel Doorway and Low-Side Window



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Fig. 42. Arch of North Doorway



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stanford-in-the-Vale, Hatford and Shellingford and the Chapels of Goosey and Baulking.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 26th, 1914.)

(Continued from page 37).

There is a bridle road which will bring us in about two miles to Shellingford, though by the ordinary road the distance will be nearly five miles. The village is a pretty and secluded one, but there is little to be gleaned about its history. The Manor up to the time of the Reformation was in the hands of the Abbot and Monks of Abingdon. After the dissolution of the Monasteries it came to the Untons and Packers, who by marriage were allied with the Wincombes of Bucklebury, and we shall notice several of their monuments in the Church. The Manor House, commonly called Shellingford Castle, stood to the south of the Church, but ceased to be inhabited in the 18th century. A row of houses close to the Church of 16th century date seem to have been offices attached to the mansion.

The Church (fig. 31) is of considerable interest. It is dedicated to St. Faith, a somewhat uncommon Saint, the Church of Newton Longueville, in Buckinghamshire, being the only other one in the

Diocese dedicated in her honour. She is still commemorated in our Calendar on October 6th. Her story is very brief. She was a devout Christian and resided at Agen, in France. Dacianus, Governor of Spain under Diocletian, happening to be at Agen, and having heard of her devotion to the faith ordered her to be brought before him, and commanded her to renounce her Christian profession. On her refusing to do this, he sentenced her to be stretched on a brazen grate over a fire, with her hands and feet tied to four posts. She endured the torture and her martyrdom with great fortitude. This was about the year 287. Her head is still shown at Agen, and her arm was formerly in the possession of the Monks of Glastonbury Abbey. The crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral in London is dedicated to her, and some relics of the Saint were formerly preserved there. Her portraiture occurs at Westminster Abbey and elsewhere, and she is usually depicted holding the brazen grate.

Shellingford Church (fig. 32) consists of a west tower and spire, nave with south porch and chancel. A vestry has recently been added on the north side of the nave enclosing the north doorway. The full dimensions of the Church are given as 84 feet in length by $19\frac{1}{2}$ in width. The Church seems to have been erected towards the end of the 12th century, and the walls are mainly of this date, all the windows having been inserted at a later period. The tower is Early English, and the spire comparatively modern, the original one having been blown down.

Let us start as usual in the interior (fig. 33) and take up our stand in the chancel, where we notice that the east window is a good example of decorated architecture of three lights, with three quatrefoils, 2 and 1 in the head. In these are some remains of old glass, canopies, parts of figures, &c. On the south side are three single trefoil-headed lancets. In the middle are some diamond quarries with a running pattern of foliage and yellow five-petalled flowers. The next window on north is also a trefoil-headed lancet. This and the window facing it have the sills brought down lower than the others, so that they should serve as low side windows. All have containing arches with chamfered edges. On the south of the chancel is a piscina with rounded trefoil-headed canopy and with two deep octagonal basins. It is probably of the late 12th century date. In the sill of the window adjoining is a plain sedile. On west wall of chancel on each side of the arch is part of the old Norman stringcourse with the usual groove and chamfer. In the

north wall at the east end is a very beautiful founders tomb and Easter sepulchre (fig. 34). There is a large arch with groove on the outer face, and on the soffit and down the sides a series of circles within which are quatrefoils enclosing roses. Within, but only partly filling up the arch, is a three-light perpendicular window. On referring to Lyson's *Magna Britannia*, published in 1806, we find the following: "In the Parish Church is an ancient monument of "John de Blewbury, a Priest, who died in 1372." And on further reference to Ashmole's *History and Antiquities of Berkshire*, whose notes were taken more than one hundred years earlier, we find a more detailed account. "Under the north window of the chancel "is a monument somewhat raised from the ground, wherein is laid "a very fair and large stone, upon which in Brass Plates is the "Figure of a Priest, vested in His Habit, within an arch of "Tabernacle Work very curiously wrought. The Verge of the "Marble is also lined with Brass, and therein is circumscribed this "Epitaph."

De terre fu feat et fourme, Johan
de Bleobury, jady's nome, et entere su retourne
L'an grace bien accompte, Mil trois cent
Septanto seconde, en mois de Marz
qui bien sponde le vint et septisme jour prove
Due Dieu de S'alme eit pitie. Amen.

In English thus :

"John of Bleobury was made of earth and returned thereunto in the year of Grace 1372, in the month of March, on whose soul God have mercy. Amen.

In the glass window over the said monument is the picture of the said John Bleobury, in a red gown and purple hood kneeling, and under this

Pro Anima Johannis Bleburi Pater Noster.

In English thus :

For the soul of John Bleobury, Pater Noster."

This glass has disappeared, and what has become of the brass, which was perhaps the finest in the County, and the monument somewhat raised from the ground? During some comparatively recent restoration, the altar space has been raised, and is now approached by two steps. On the chancel floor is the lower half of the stone with the indent of the brass, showing the feet and lower part of vestment of John de Bleobury on a mound, and the bed for the inscription, but the brass itself has gone. The figure must have

been nearly, if not quite, full size, and no doubt the remainder of the stone is concealed under the altar steps. One would like to know when this act of vandalism was perpetrated. John de Bleobury was clearly a benefactor to the Church and Parish, and it is inconceivable that such an act of desecration should have taken place, especially as the tomb could not in any way have interfered with the services of the Church. The old glass is mentioned as being in the window, when the Ecclesiastical Topography of the Diocese of Oxon was published in 1850. Is it possible, that if still in existence both it and the brass can be restored to their original situation?

Ashmole mentions another brass here, with figures of a Man and Woman stolen away, and an inscription below to William and Isabel Blebury in Norman French, which lay in the body of the Church, near the entrance to the chancel. He gives the following copy and translation of the epitaph :

William Blebury & Isabel sa feme
giserit ici, Dieu pour sa grace
de leurs alme eit merci ;
Qui pour lour almes et lour
enfantz prieront, mil et trent
jours, de pardon averont.

In English thus :

“William Blebury and Isabel his wife lies here, God of his Grace have mercy on their souls, and they who shall pray for their and their children’s souls shall obtain a thousand and thirty days’ pardon.”

Needless to say this brass and the stone, in which it was imbedded, has also disappeared.

On the north wall of the Chancel is a large marble monument to Mary Winchcombe wife of Robert Packer, died 1719, and to Robert Packer died 1731. On the floor are ledger stones to Robert Packer, died 1681, Temperance his wife, died 1705, also to Elizabeth Jacob, wife to John Packer, she died in 1695. She was mother to a Robert Packer, daughter of Richard Stephens, and afterwards wife to Thomas Jacob of Norton, Wilts ; also of Mrs. Mary Packer, died 1719.

On the south wall on a blue marble slab, with painted and gilt frame, and the Neville shield, on a saltire a rose, above is the following long inscription in Latin to Edward Nevill, son of Sir Henry Nevill, ambassador extraordinary to Henry IVth King of

France, who died in 1632. The Monument to Sir Henry Nevill the Grandfather of Edward, is in the north chapel of Waltham-St.-Lawrence Church. In the account of Waltham-St.-Lawrence, Lysons mentions Sir Henry the ambassador and states he had two sons, but does not include Edward the subject of the memorial tablet at Shellingford.

M S

D Edouardi
 Nevill Armig ex
 Flexuosâ Stemmatis
 Nobiliter vetusta Serie
 Progerminati cui Pater D
 Henricus Nevill eques auratus
 Extraordinariâ Reginae Elizab
 Ad Henricum IV Gall Regem le (a altered to e)
 Gatione perhonorifice functus
 Aliam Musarum et Encyclopædicam
 Nobilitatem adserentis inter
 Regalis Collegii Cîtebrigenensis
 Sodales unius quondam meritiss
 Hinc ad blandiorem prolificamq
 Conjugii sodalitatem protecti
 Tandem festine cuniculo ad
 Augustiorem adhuc atq inso
 lubilem beatæ Æternitatis
 Societatem evecti anno ætatis
 XXXI° Christi MDCXXXII° hoc
 Uxorîe et obstinatæ posthumæ
 Charitatis symbolum devotissimæ
 Mærens merenti P Alicia
 Uxor ejus.

Ashmole in his History and Antiquities of Berkshire gives the following translation :—

“ In English thus

“ Sacred to the Memory of Mr. Edward Nevil, Esq., sprung from
 “ a numerous Noble and Ancient Race, whose Father Henry
 “ Nevil, Kt., honourably perform'd an Extraordinary Embassy
 “ from Queen Elizabeth to Henry the Fourth, King of France ;
 “ vers'd in Poetry, and all the Liberal Sciences while Fellow of
 “ the King's College, Cambridge ; late united in the more pleas-
 “ ing and profitable Bonds of Matrimony, lastly elated to the

“more August and indissolvable Society of a Blessed Eternity,
 “in the Year of his Age 30, of Christ 1632. P. Alicia his
 “sorrowful Wife erected this most Devoted Symbol of Posthu-
 “mous Conjugal Affection to a Husband Worthy her Grief.”

The Chancel arch (Fig. 35) is semi-circular headed Norman, with plain hoodmould and two plain recessed orders resting on a late form of chamfered abacus, and a main respond to inner, and engaged shaft to outer order. The capitals on the south side (Fig. 36B) are enriched with very nice scroll foliage, on the north (Fig. 36A) with stiff leaved foliage.

On the east wall of the nave, on south side of the Chancel arch, is a large monument with urn and the following inscription to the Rt. Hon. William Viscount Ashbrook, died 1780, and to Elizabeth his wife who died in 1808 :—

To William Viscount Ashbrook
 Who blessed with strong natural Parts, cultivated and improved by natural Study,
 With a quick Apprehension, corrected by a solid Judgment
 Would have conferred Dignity on any Trust or Employment in public Life
 But preferring the Tranquillity of Retirement to the Tumult of Business
 He devoted himself to innocent Amusements
 and the Exercise of Hospitality Charity Benevolence and all other amiable Virtues, which
[ennoble private Life
 and are the only sure Foundations of social & domestic Happiness
 Whilst the Sweetness of his Disposition gained him the Love
 His unblemished Integrity preserved him the Respect of all that knew him.
 He was a kind and affectionate Father Husband and Brother
 In him the Rich have lost a sincere & disinterested Friend
 The Poor a compassionate and generous Benefactor.

On north of Chancel arch is another monumental tablet to William Flower, Viscount Ashbrook, who died unmarried in 1802. On north wall of nave is a large tablet with portrait and long Latin inscription to Sir Edward Hanne, who was physician-in-ordinary to Queen Anne. He married a daughter of John Packer.

On north of nave are three square-headed two-light Perpendicular windows, with cross transom, within slightly arched containing arches. On the south side at east end is a three-light Decorated window with three quatrefoils, two and one in the head. It is within a very widely splayed containing arch. Next comes a large square-headed four-light Perpendicular window, with cross transom and well moulded containing arch (Fig. 37). It has some ancient glass in the lower compartments. The canopies with numerous pinnacles on red and blue grounds alternately are still *in situ*. There are the heads of two crowned female and one male saint, a scroll with Sēs Johēs, some diamond quarries with oak leaves and acorns, etc.

To the west of the south doorway is another four-light Perpen-

dicular window, similar to that to the east of it. The tower arch (Fig. 38) is massive Early English, with chamfered edge to arch and jambs and undercut abacus. There is a small early west lancet with widely splayed arch. The font has a plain octagonal bowl and stem. It is of 15th century date. It has a very nicely carved Jacobean cover. The pulpit is comparatively plain and of the Georgian period.

On the nave floor is a small brass plate with the following inscription in capital letters :—

“Here lyeth the body of Mary Knappe, who
 “departed this life y^e XXIII of Sepr 1621
 “when she had attained to y^e age of 16 yeares
 “Christ is to me Life Death is to me Advantage.”

The tower is Early English in two stages. There is a lancet window in the lower stage west side, then a stringcourse, and then a round-headed lancet on west, and a very long narrow lancet on north and south sides. The upper stage is embattled and there are quaint gargoyles at the centre of each face and the angles. The spire is slender and lofty and of no great age, as the original one was blown down some few years ago. The nave walls are embattled. The two large Perpendicular windows on south have labels on shields. Let into south wall is a shield with date 1625. Over the porch is a stone with rather modern looking carving, namely, “Carol rex 1625.” No doubt some repairs to the Church were carried out at this time. The south porch is of the Decorated period. The outer arch has the half-round and hollow on arch and jambs and hoodmould above. There is a well carved finial at the apex of the porch, Within is a two-light window on east and west. The south doorway (Fig. 39) is very fine Transitional-Norman, semi-circular headed, of the same date and type as those at Lambourne, Ashbury and Woolston. It has a chamfered hoodmould, with a series of 33 specimens of the dogtooth ornament on the chamfer which terminates on dragons’ heads. These are on separate stones to the other part of the hoodmould, and it is possible that the portion with the dogtooth may be a later addition. There are two recessed orders. The outer (Fig. 40) has a sunk roll on the angle and bold zigzag on face and soffit of the arch, forming a series of lozenges above the roll. Round the inner order is a bold engaged roll. The abacus is of the late type with small roll on the lower part of the main portion, and with hollow and small roll to lower portion. The outer order is supported on banded shafts with

scroll foliage on the west, and lilies on the east capital. There are claws to the bases. The inner order has small engaged shafts with foliage and a cable band above on the capitals. The door is plain and old.

There is a Decorated buttress on south side at east end of nave. All the Decorated windows have the usual external dripstone. The south Chancel doorway (Fig. 41) is semi-circular headed with hollow and small roll on the hoodmould, and two recessed orders. On the outer a series of bold chevrons, those at the apex and on the east side enclosing leaves, set on an angle roll with hollow on the soffit. On the inner order is a roll on the angle with hollow on either side. These are supported on the abacus, which is of late character with the hollow on the main upper portion, and banded shafts, the inner engaged, to both orders with foliage on the capitals. At the east end of the Chancel are three flat buttresses carried up as far as the stringcourse, all being of the Transitional-Norman period. The Decorated window above has the usual hoodmould. The east on north window, formerly containing the tomb of John of Bleobury, has had the lower part filled up, though the original outer sill still remains.

The north doorway (Fig. 42) within a modern vestry is very interesting, semi-circular headed, and of the same date as the other doorways. The interior arch is much loftier than the outer one. This has a grooved and chamfered hoodmould, and then 12 large beak-heads, some with small holes pierced on the beaks, on an angle roll. This is supported on a chamfered abacus with some beading on the upper part, and low cylindrical shafts with the acanthus on the capitals. There is an inner order with engaged roll to arch and jambs. As has been mentioned before, these beak-heads occur in our County on doorways at Wantage School and Catmore, on the Chancel arch at Avington and on a voussoir in the Abbey Ruins at Reading. The Monster Heads occur at Charney Bassett and Avington.

(To be continued.)

Our readers will miss Captain Kempthorne's interesting articles on the "History of Sandhurst." Captain Kempthorne was ordered to the front. Some weeks ago he was reported missing, but news has been received that, though wounded, he is a prisoner in Germany and is recovering.—EDITORS.



History of the Parish of Beenham.

By Mary Sharp.

(Continued from page 49.)

In the following year 1840, a village school was built on Glebe land, paid for partly by a grant from the National Society and by private subscriptions, which has since been enlarged. It became a County School 1892, but the buildings still belong to the Trustees and are rented by the County Council.

The succeeding vicars were Henry Cherry, William Bushnell, the eldest son of John Bushnell, and Thomas Hext Bushnell his second son, who was appointed in 1855. It was in his time that the present Church as it now stands was built. The single nave was no longer large enough for the Parish, and when it came to building side aisles it seemed a good opportunity to remodel the Church entirely, so as to make it (as far as human hand could do so) more worthy of its sacred use.

Mr. Woodyer was chosen as architect, and friends came forward to help with funds. The difficulties were, however, not entirely financial. The Lord of the Manor was an absentee and Beenham House was let, the whole of the rest of the property being at the same time leased to that conscientious farmer and churchwarden who had so strongly objected to the removal of the whitewash from the Chancel windows. He liked no better the idea of a new church, but understanding at last that no contribution to the building fund was asked for or expected from him, his opposition reduced itself to a refusal to allow his large square, deal-boarded pew to be interfered with. It happened that, shortly before the time of which we are speaking, the same difficulty had occurred in a neighbouring village, where the chief man in the Parish had his pew in a gallery, which was to be pulled down. Failing to get his consent to its removal, the architect had taken away the whole of the rest of the gallery, leaving the pew like a large cage on four legs with a ladder staircase, up which the chief man's daughter climbed every Sunday morning

when she came to Service. He himself never entered the Church again till the day of his funeral, when he did not occupy his pew. When, therefore, our churchwarden's objection seemed insuperable it was proposed to leave him his pew on these terms when the rest of the church was re-seated. But that pleased him less still. "I know the trick of that and I won't have it, you are not going to do me as they did Mr. Smith at Freshfield." So he had to give way like a wise man and said no more about it. The new nave with two low aisles was finished and was opened by Samuel Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, November 5th, 1859. The Early English Chancel and the brick tower of the intermediate Church still remained. Perhaps this was the most interesting phase in the Church's history, for something of three successive buildings could be seen together to record the experiences of the past as well as the taste of the present. But the Chancel, besides being in bad repair, was actually too small for the needs of the choir and the services, and when Colonel William Dickson succeeded to the property on his brother's death he at once undertook its alteration. The new Chancel was re-opened on the 24th of September, 1871, and the result was the Church as we now see it (1913). It must be left to posterity to pass judgment on its architectural merits or demerits.

In 1864, during Thomas Bushnell's incumbency, a bad form of typhus fever broke out on Beenham Hill, and three Sisters of Mercy from East Grinstead came to live in the cottage to nurse and tend the invalids; their services were most devoted and valuable. Two of them caught the fever and had to be taken home and two of the cottagers died.

In 1878 a working man's Club was built by the Vicar on Glebe land as a moveable structure and lectures and entertainments were started in connection with it.

OF THE CHURCH PLATE.

None of this is of pre-Reformation date, as is well known an exhaustive search for and confiscation of such valuable articles was made during the reign of Edward VI., and but very little escaped the Royal Commissioners. A silver flagon is of 1602-3, and a pewter flagon with initials T.C. is supposed to be of 1610. A silver chalice ornamented with the Sacred Monogram enclosed in rays is of 1817, and a silver paten has the same ornament date 1805, also bearing an inscription as follows: "1852. The Parish of Beenham, Berks. The Rev. John Bushnell, A.M., Vicar, Joseph Call and

Joseph Matthews, Church Wardens. There is a silver cover to the paten date 1824.

THE CHURCHYARD.

This is enclosed with a wooden post and rail fence, which was formerly kept in repair by the ratepayers of the Parish, each one, according to the value of his or her holding, having the charge of one or more panels. A board hangs in the Vestry with the names of those responsible for the repairs. Besides three handsome table monuments, two of them to the Dickson family and one to the wife of the late Mr. Gill (formerly agent to the property under Colonel Dickson), there are two others of earlier date. One, near the south-eastern corner of the ground, bears the following inscription on its surface :—

Here lyeth the body of William Bigg, Esqr., son of John Bigg, Esq., by Katherine his wife, of Haynes Hill in the County of Wilts, and Grandson to the Lady Phœbe Bigg, sole heiress of the Right Honble. James Lee, Earl of Marlborough, who was Secretary of State to King James the first. He died of an ague May VIth, Anno Domini 1740, in the 62nd year of his age.

This monument was erected at the expence of his sorrowful Relict Henrietta Maria Bigg out of grateful
to his memory.

On another monument of the same kind, nearer the Church, is the following :—

Sacred to the Memory
of Tho. Englefield,
late of Aldermaston, Gent,
who died Nov. 6, 1801,
Aged 19 years.

Also of Tho. Englefield
and Mary his wife,
his Father and Mother.
He died Oct., 1758,
She died March 6. 1790.

Bearing witness to the fact, proved also by the Vicar's tithe books that descendants of the family of Englefield of Englefield still dwelt in the neighbourhood.

Under a tree at the south-west corner of the enclosure by the pathway leading to a little gate, are two crosses to the memory of Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, formerly tenants at Beenham House, they stand on a strip of ground added to the churchyard from Glebe land in 1869. Further north and west of the tower another cross marks the grave of Emily Bushnell, wife of the Rev. Thomas Bushnell a former vicar. Continuing the circuit of the churchyard, close

against the northern boundary fence there is a monument to the Rev. John Bushnell and his family, and by the side of it a slab, raised upon four stone posts, bears an inscription round its margin in Latin to the effect that John Douglas, D.D., lies buried below.

Two coped stone monuments near the vestry door are memorials of — Matthews and his wife. Close by the south porch entrance to the Church is a row of carved head and foot stones belonging to the graves of the two families of Iremonger and Smallbone. They date from early in 1700 and are interesting specimens of English monumental art of the period. They are decorated with figures of cherubs and angels in high relief.

In spite of the addition to the space already mentioned, with the increase of the population the churchyard became overcrowded, and in 1898 Mr. Henry Waring made a free gift to the Parish of a plot of land on the opposite side of the lane to the east of the Churchyard as a burying ground. It was consecrated by the Bishop of Oxford on May 9th of the same year.

(To be continued.)

Feet of Fines for Berkshire.

Transcribed by L. J. Acton Pile.

(Continued from page 83, Vol. 19).

HILARY TERM 22 GEO. II. *(continued).*

(1301) Francis Dandridge, Esq., and Francis Lassar and Sarah, w; lands in Didcot. £60.

(1302) John White and Thomas Gammett and Sarah Wall: house, etc., and lands in Downend in psh Chieveley. £100.

(1303) Adam Bailey and Francis Rance and Henry Moore the elder and Henry Moore the younger; house, etc., and lands in Hurst. £60.

(1304) Edward Collins and Mary Tubb, spinster, and William Bowles, gent, and John Field and Mary, w; house, etc., and land in Grove in psh Wantage and West Hanney. 760.

(1305) Edward Ware and Edward Pamfilius Hearne and Edward Hearne and Sarah, w; land in Marcham. £60.

(1306) Richard Hewett, gent, and Hugh Roberts *and* Samuel Peapele and Isabel, w, Thomas Greenwood and Elizabeth, w, and John Wright and Katherine, w ; cottage and land in Bucklands Marsh and Great Coxwell. £60.

(1307) John Wise *and* Ferdinando Collins, Esq. ; house, etc., and lands, etc., in Charlton and Grove in psh Wantage. £100.

(1308) Archibald Hamilton, Esq., commonly called Lord Archibald Hamilton *and* John Mattingley and Ann, w ; house, etc., and lands in psh Remenham. £60.

(1309) John Blandy, Esq., *and* John Stevenson and Elizabeth, w, and Daniel Parker and Mary, w ; house, etc., and lands, etc., in Kingston Bagpuize and Sutton Courtney and 1/5th of Manor of Kingston Bagpuize. £100.

(1310) Martha Gibbs, widow, *and* Joseph Irving and Anne, w ; 1/3rd of houses in psh S. Lawrence in Reading. £60.

(1311) Thomas Butler, gent, *and* Thomas Dawson and Jane, w ; house and lands in East Hanney and Grove. £60.

(1312) Edward Belcher *and* William Aris and Susannah, w ; house, etc., in Abingdon. £60.

(1313) William Reddington *and* Thomas Spencer and Mary, w ; house, etc., and land in psh New Windsor. £100.

(1314) Elisha Biscoe, gent, *and* William Badnall and Mary, w ; moiety of cottage and land, etc., in Charney. £60.

MICHAELMAS 12 GEO. II.

(1315) Matthew Wymondesold, Esq., *and* Thomas Pope and Mary, w ; lands in East Locking. £60.

(1316) Samuel Rock, gent, *and* Cornelius Arnold, Henry Huscroft, Richard Hopkins, Mary Stone, widow, and James Stone and Sarah, w ; lands in Steventon. £60.

(1317) Thomas Thurmer the elder *and* Richard Lock and Jane, w ; house, etc., and lands, etc., in Winkfield. £100.

(1318) John Marshe, gent, *and* Henry Draycott and Elizabeth, w, and Robert Martin and Mary, w ; house, etc., and land in Binfield and Swallowfield. £60.

(1319) John Curry *and* George Netherclift and Ann, w ; houses, etc., in psh S. Giles in Reading. £100.

(1320) Caleb Woods *and* Peircy Hatch and Jane, w ; lands in Winkfield. £60.

(1321) Ephraim Carter and Thomas Carter *and* John Smith and Mary, w, and John Boyer and Elizabeth, w ; land in Easthampstead. £60.

(1322) Charles Cheney, gent, *and* John Shury and Anne, w ; house and lands in Marcham. £100.

(1323) William Fending *and* Randall Buckland and Mary, w ; moiety of one cottage and land in psh New Windsor. £40.

(1324) Luke Robinson, Esq., *and* Robert Thornton, Esq., and Jane, w ; house, etc., and lands, etc., in pshes Comner, Appleton and Beselsleigh. £300.

(1325) William Loveday, Esq., *and* John Pigott, gent, and Jane, w ; houses, etc., and lands, etc., in West Challow for 99 years from the feast of S. Michael the Archangel last past at peppercorn rent. £500.

(1326) Richard Toovey *and* Margaret Absolon, widow, Edward Absolon and Mary, w, and William Willmott; houses, etc., and lands in Cholsey and Winterbrook. £100.

(1327) James Bradley *and* Thomas Pope and Mary, w; house, etc., and land lands in East Locking. £60 for 99 years from Feast of S. Michael, 1737.

(1328) Ann Rudge, spinster, *and* George Earl of Macclesfield, Elizabeth Biddulph, widow, Thomas Young, Esq., and Arabella, w, and Bridgett Biddulph, spinster; house and lands in pshes Wargrave and Waltham S. Lawrence als Lawrence Waltham. £260.

(1329) Anthony Bidingfield *and* John Watts and Jane, w; house, etc., in psh New Windsor. £60.

TRINITY II AND 12 GEO. II.

(1330) Stephen Poyntz, Esq., *and* Michael Hillersdon, Esq.; Manor of Midgham and houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Midgham, Thatcham, Woolhampton, Bradfield, Bucklebury, Aldermaston and Burfield. £1,400.

(1331) Edward Woodham the younger *and* John Ambrose, gent, and Elizabeth, w; house, etc., in Hungerford. £60.

(1332) Benjamin Whiten, gent, *and* Winchcomb Howard Packer, Esq., Henry Packer, Esq., and Thomas Lennard, gent; Manor of Shellingford and houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Shellingford in Kingston Lisle also Kingston Lesley, Fawler, Battleking als Baulking and Uffington als Uffington. £1,500.

(1333) Philip Garrard, gent, *and* William Horne and Elizabeth, w; house, etc., in Reading. £120.

(1334) John Abery, gent, *and* Edward Dowsett and Mary, w; houses, etc., in pshes S. Mary and S. Giles in Reading. £120.

(1335) Edward Lovelock the elder *and* John Keate the elder and John Keate the younger and Elizabeth, w; house, etc., and land, etc., in Great Hidden in psh Hungerford. £60.

(1336) Nathaniel Micklem, gent, *and* Thomas Holmes and Ann, w, and Thomas Rance and Elizabeth, w; houses, etc., and land in Swallowfield and Wokingham. £60.

(1337) Thomas Staverton and Giles Cotterell *and* Nathaniel Micklem and Mary, w, and Elizabeth Staverton, w; houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Wokingham, Easthampstead and Binfield. £420.

(1338) Sarah Norwood, spinster, *and* Thomas Goodwin and Mary, w; lands, etc., in Finchampstead. £60.

(1339) Bryan Richards, gent, *and* Richard Ellis and Elizabeth, w; houses, etc., and lands in Swallowfield. £120.

(1349) John Abery, gent, *and* Henry Horne and Hannah, w; house, etc., and lands in pshes Tilehurst, S. Mary and S. Gilles in Reading. £100.

(1341) Thomas Simonds *and* Samuel Wheate and Jane, w; land in psh Ockingham. £60.

(1342) John Sheppard *and* Elizabeth Taylor, widow, als Ogborne and Giles Taylor als Ogborne and Elizabeth, w; house, etc., and land in Leckhampstead and Chieveley. £60.

(1343) Richard Pottinger *and* John Pottinger, gent, and Mary, w; lands in West Compton. £220.

(1344) Richard Toovey, gent, and John Harper and Mary, w; house, etc., in psh S. Leonards in Wallingford. £60.

EASTER II GEO. II.

(1347) Edward Walter, gent, *and* Benjamin Taylor; houses in Newbury. £120.

(1348) Robert Cary *and* John Willis and Temperance, w; houses and land in Beenham, Aldermaston and Padworth. £60.

(1349) Jacob Turner *and* James George and Mary, w, and William George; house, etc., and lands in Baulking als Battleking in psh Uffington. £60.

(1350) John Robinson *and* George Bedbrough and Hannah, w; house, etc., and land in Sunninghill. £60.

(1351) David Wyatt *and* Margaret Stevenson, spinster, and Thomas Stevenson; moiety of cottage and land, etc., in Charney. £60.

(1352) Robert Burd, doctor in physick, *and* Joseph Clarke and Elizabeth, w, and William Clarke and Ann, w; land in psh Waltham S. Lawrence. £60.

(1353) Gilbert Cowper *and* Thomas Piggott, Esq., and Frances, w; house in Wantage. £60.

(1354) Robert Selwood, clerk, *and* Thomas Swaine and Jane, w, and William Button; house, etc., and lands in Cholsey. £100.

(1355) William Fuller *and* Robert Holliday and Mary, w; house, etc., and lands in Fernham. £100.

(1356) James Draper *and* James Ford and Martha, w; houses, etc., and land in Theale in psh Tilehurst and in Tilehurst. £60.

(1357) William Elderfield *and* William Mills and Elizabeth, w; houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Standford; lease for 99 years at peppercorn rent. £100.

(1358) John Meggott, Esq., *and* John Brooks and Hester, w, Ralph Kirby and Margaret, w, and William Bunce and Elizabeth, w; lands in Cotwell in psh Marcham. £60.

(1359) Sarah Loveday, widow, *and* John Dalby, Esq., and Charlotte, w, and Elizabeth Dalby, spinster; lands, etc., in pshes White Waltham and Hurley. £120.

(1360) Bryan Richarps, gent, *and* John Johnson and Rachael, w, Richard Gilbert and Anne, w, Edward Parker and Sarah, w, Anthony Parker and Anne, w, William Parker and Elizabeth, w, Arthur Hayford and Anne, w, and William Douglas and Anne, w; houses, etc., in Wokingham. £120.

(1361) Matthew Anderson *and* Margaret Young, widow; barn, etc., and lands in Dudcott, Milton, Sutton Courtney and Sutton Wick. £60.

(1362) Matthew Anderson and James Saunders *and* John Prince and Abigall, w, and Thomas Wheeler and Katharine, w; houses, etc., in Abingdon and Sutton Courtney. £200.

(1363) James Barber *and* John Hasker and Mary, w; houses, etc., and lands in Stratfield Mortimer Co. Berks and ppty in Co. Southampton, £180.

*(1364) Richard Bannister, gent, *and* Richard Chickley and Ann, w; 1/4th Manor of Padworth and houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Padworth, Aldermaston, Beenham, Stratfield Sea, Burfield, Sulhamstead Bannister in Co. Berks, and ppty in Cos. Bucks and Southampton. £1,600.

* Richard Chicheley, LL.D. Ann his wife was daughter of Loftus Brightwell, of Padworth, Berks. She died 18th Sept., 1740, aged 37.—SHARP, Record of the Parish of Padworth.

HILARY II GEO. II.

(1365) Jane Tubb and Mary Tubb *and* John Nutt and Martha, w, and Thomas Nutt ; barn and lands and moiety of houses, lands, etc., in Grove Wick in Grove in psh Wantage and Hanney. £100.

(1366) Denington Bradley, gent, *and* William Elkins and Elizabeth, w, John Elkins, Stephen Elkins, Elizabeth Elkins, William Cooper, John Harfeild and Mary, w, Robert Sharp and Elizabeth, w, and John Spicer and Sarah, w ; house, etc., and land in Barkham and Wokingham. £60.

(1367) Alexander Boote, gent, *and* Henry Warner, gent, Mary Loder, widow, and Mary Bartholomew, widow ; houses and lands in Stanford in the Vale. £360.

(1368) Aminadab Harrison *and* Richard Lamborne and Martha, w, and John Smith and Mary, w ; house and land in Easthampstead. £60.

(1369) Henry Clanfield *and* Thomas Winter and Martha, w ; cottage and land in Kingston Bagpuize. £60.

(1370) Henry Lack *and* John Bacon and Ann, w ; house, etc., and land in White Waltham. £60.

(1371) John Cholwell, gent, *and* Thomas Baker and Mary, w ; houses, etc., and lands in Binfield and Warfield. £100.

(1372) Elizabeth Reeves, widow, *and* Philip Byles and Catherine, w ; houses, etc., and land in Bucklebury. £60.

(1373) John Coombe and William Coombe *and* Thomas Coombe the elder and Catherine, w, Thomas Coombe the younger and Joseph Acres and Catherine, w ; houses, etc., and lands in Milton. £100.

(1374) James Colebrook *and* Francis Grove and Margaret, w ; houses, etc., and lands in psh Milton. £300.

(1375) Thomas Hollyer and Thomas Clements *and* Daniel Headland and Sarah, w ; house, etc., and lands in Shinfield. £60.

(1376) Samuel Hoseman and Richard Percy *and* Peter Sheppard ; houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Kintbury and Kintbury Holt. £260.

(1377) Richard Carter and William Everett *and* Thomas Draper the younger and Mary Draper, spinster : 1/3rd house, etc., and lands in North Street, Theale, Tilehurst and Englefield. £100.

(1378) James Tillyer *and* Morgan Slaughter and Susannah, w ; moiety house, etc., in New Windsor and Clewer. £60.

(1379) Richard Eyloe (? Eyles), gent, *and* Thomas Cartwright, gent, and Alice, w ; house, etc., and land in Shrevenham. £60.

(1380) Bartholomew Tipping, Esq., *and* Thomas Iles and Mary, w, and John Iles ; house, etc., and lands in Baulking, als Battle King and Kingston Lisle. £100.

(1381) Edward Payce *and* William Gale ; house, etc., and land, etc., in Sandhurst. £60.

(1382) John Lee, gent, *and* Margaret Lawrence, widow, William Lee and Elizabeth, w, Richard Smither and Margaret, w, and William Pigg and Mary, w ; 2/3rds houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Wokingham, Co Berks, and ppty in in Cos. Wilts and Middx. £520.

(1383) Joseph Haycock *and* Henry Simmonds and Elizabeth, w ; houses, etc., and lands, etc., in Reading, Hurst and Asheridge in Co Berks and ppty in Co Wilts. £180.

(1384) Adam Baily and Richard Dully *and* Richard Girdler, William Girdler, Charles Simonds and Anne, w, Richard Larkin and Hannah, w, Sarah Chandler, widow, and John Girdler; cottage, etc., and land in Hurst in Co. Berks and ppty in Co Wilts. £120.

(1385) Henry Barns, gent, *and* Alexander Denton, Esq.; houses in Gt Coxwell and Watchfield als Watchinfield in Co Berks and ppty in Co Middx.

MICHAELMAS II GEO. II.

(1386) John Taylor and James Saunders *and* John May and Jane, w, and James Badcock; lands in Kingston Bagpuize. £60.

(1387) Benjamin Fuller *and* Mary Winterborn, spinster, and Patience Bonnor, widow; houses, etc., and land in Milton and Abingdon. £100.

(1388) William Harrison and William Cooper *and* John Druce and Ann, w; house, etc., and lands in pshes Warfield and Winfield. £60.

(1389) Bryan Richards, gent, *and* Edward Parker and Sarah, w, Anthony Parker and Ann, w, William Parker and Elizabeth, w, Arthur Hayford and Ann, w, and William Douglas and Anna, w; houses, etc., and land in Wokingham and Binfield. £60.

(1390) Marshe Dickinson, gent, *and* John Gatfield and Frances, w; 1/7th of houses and lands in Bradfield, Ufton, Bucklebury, als Burghulbury, and Stanford Dingley. £60.

(1391) Samuel Collier *and* Francis Ferris and Elizabeth, w; house, etc., in psh S. Mary in Reading. £60.

(1392) William Brookland, gent, *and* Alice Greenaway, widow, and Robert Greenaway; house, etc., in New Windsor. £60.

(1393) Dorothy Dowbiggin, widow, and John Davis *and* Robert Lovell, Ann Ewen, widow, and Richard Ewen and Rebecca, w; houses, etc., and lands in psh Clewar and in hamlet of Dedworth in psh New Windsor. £60.

(1394) Nathaniel Basnet (? Barnet) and John Lawrance *and* John Mogg and Frances, w; house, etc., in Wokingham. £60.

(1395) Bryan Leach *and* John Simmons and Mary, w; house and land in Hurst and Arborfield. £60.

(1396) Uriah Salter *and* Edmund Smith and Martha, w; houses and land in Thatcham. £60.

(1397) John Slade *and* Joseph House and Ann, w; house, etc., and lands in Aston Upthorp, als Upthorpe. £100.

(1398) Gilbert Cowper *and* Henry Stiles, Nathaniel Wilkins Brett and Frances, w, John Cullum, als Haskins and Elizabeth, w, and Mary Cullum, als Haskins; land in Charlton in psh Wantage and Southmorton. £60.

(1399) George Townsend, gent, *and* Philip Clark and Joseph Rose and Sarah, w; houses, etc., and lands in Shilton. £60.

(1400) Samuel Handley, Benjamin Lehook and William Ladd *and* Nathaniel Garland, Esq., and Ann, w; houses, etc., and lands, etc., in pshes Bucklebury, Beenham, Pedworth and Ufton, als Uffington. £360.

L. J. ACTON PILE.

(To be continued).



Early Berkshire Wills, from the
P.C.C., ante 1558.

(Continued from Vol. 10, page 64.)

Transcribed by Mr. Tudor Sherwood.

182.

The Will of WILLIAM CRANE.—3 April, 1520. To be buried in the churche of All halowes of Ffaringdon near late wife. To my wif now being called Alys my house in Ffaringdon that I dwelle in and the next house wherein John Louke dwelleth for life with remainder to Thomas Crane son of William Crane of Fawley in the parish of Sparsald.¹ William Pratt of Faringdon overseer. My kynnesman at Lamborne to have the sheep there. To Master Edward Colier, vicar of Faringdon vj^s. viij^d. William Hicks of Faringdon, executor.

Witnesses, Edward Colyer, Syr Morgan Lewys, Harry Mawtill, Will'm Huyk, Richard Jerarde, John Lanke.

Administration 20 May 1533 to Alice the relict, William Hicks renouncing.

183.

The Will of THOMAS CRESSSELL of Byndfeld.²—14 Sept., 1558. I will and bequeath unto John Cressell my sonne £10 besides the £10 unto him bequeathed by his grandfather. Unto each of my other children, Thomas, Richard, Agnes, Margaryett, Aveline and Humfraye, £20 apeece at marriage or age of 21. The lease of the personage of Waltham St. Lawrence to my sonne John Cressell. The residue to my wife Margaret, sole executrix. Thomas Smyth, Thomas Smewyn and John Grove jun., overseers.

Witnesses, William Cressell, Richard Hayne, Thomas Smyth, and John Grove.

Proved 7 Dec. 1558.

(7, Welles).

184.

The Will of RICHARD CROCKER of Faringdon, Merchant of the Staple of Caleis.³—8 March, 1519. Whereas I haue surrenderid into

the handez of the lorde my londs and tenements &c., aswell wⁱⁿ ffar yngdon aforesaid as wⁱⁿ Westbroke to thuse of Elyn my wiffe I wille that she enioye it so that she never in any wise surrender ne geve the said londez nor any p^cell thereof to Willia' her sonne. The residue to the said Elyn, sole executrice.

Witnesses, Thomas Bardall of Faryngdon, Thomas Nixon, Henry Hasilherst, and John Ruttur, notary.

Proved at Lamehith⁴ 14 March, 1519.

(27, Aylofffe).

185.

The Will of JOHN CRYSSHEFELD [CRUTCHFIELD], citezeyn and skinner of London.—4 June, 1444. 22nd Henry VI. To be buried in the church of Aldermary of London. To the chirche of Seynt Michel of Bray in the countie of Berk where I was cristened xx^a. To Agnes Scott (?) my sister the wiff of John Scott (?) to Dame Mawde Trussell, nonne of Winchester, to Alice Trussell my sister, to myne other sister dwellyng with Thom's Bullok, Robert Trussell my brother, John my sone, Alice my daughter, and to John Cole, citizen and skynner of London, sundry bequests. The residue to Alice my wife and John Cole executors.

[No witnesses named].

Proved July, 1444.

(11, Rous).

186.

The Will of WILLIAM DALE [or Dalle] gentelman of Tydmarshe.—21 Oct., 1536. Wife Elizabeth sole executrix and universal legatee with remainder to daughter Jane.

Witnesses, John Mathewe, John Ewyng, William Tanner, Dr. Robert Heynson parson of Tydmarshe.

Proved 20 Nov., 1536.

(41, Hogen).

187.

The Will of THOMAS DALLEY clerk and vicar of Chepyng, co. Berks.—15 May, 1500. To be buried in the church of Chepyng ffaryngdon. I give to Florence Walton, Margaret Walton, Johan Walton, Elizabeth Walton, Agnes Walton, William Walton, Thomas Walton, John Tyler, Thomas Louke, Thomas Heryng, Elizabeth Heyford, Richard Heyford, Johane Heyford, Robert Draper, Thomas Heyford, Humfrey Baret, Johane Vase, Johane Alys, Thomas Baratt, Thomas Grene, Thomas Stere, Thomas Morten, Rose Bardoll, Sir Humfrey Baratt, and Sir John Walter, sundry bequests. The residue to Mr. John Roper, clerk. Thomas Heyford and Robert Draper, executors.

Proved 2 July, 1501.

(19, Moone).

188.

The Will of DAME ANNE DANVERS, wedowe.—15 Feb., 1530. To be buried at Thatcham "in the chapell newe made by me . . . nye the stone that lyethe oon my good husband." To my sonne Wyllyam Danvers bothe house and lands at Banbury &c., and to my daughter Cicely his wife one good black gowne &c., and to George Danvers my son vj^s viij^d and every of his children on lyve (?) xx^d apiece. To my son John Raynsford lord of Michelewe my ij saltes. To my daughter Isabell Docwray, to Edward Docwray her sonne, to Edmond her son and every one of her children, to Robert Danvers, my daughter Margaret Restall, my servant John Wight, my son Docwray, Marteyn Docwray, my godsonne John Raynsford, Sir Richard Alwood curate of Thatcham, and to my god-daughter Anne Langton [sundry bequests]. My new house late buylde in Thatcham. The residue to Alice Raynesford my daughter full executrix. Sir Thomas Justice, vicar of Thatcham, overseer.

[No witnesses named]. Chamberhouse mentioned.

(4, Thower).

189.

The Will of JOHANNE DANVERS, sometime wife of William Danvers Esquire, deceased.—16 June, 1453. To be buried with husband in the church of the Franciscan brothers, London. Executors, Mr. Robert Rooke and Laurence Stafford, clerk. Testatrix refers to Winterborne and Boxore in Barkshire.

Codicil 5 Jan., 1457.

[No witnesses named ; no note of probate].

(11, Stokton).

190.

The Will of JOHN DANVERS of Chamberhous in the parish of T'ach'm co. Berks, Esquire.—20 Sept., 1508. To be buried in the church of Thach'm. Margaret my wife. Thomas Danvers my brother. Prayers to be offered for the soul of John Pury Esquire. Thomas Frowyke, knight, Chief Justice of the King's Bench. The manor of Waterstoke, co. Oxon. Dame Sibille Danvers relict of Thomas Danvers, knight. My daughters Anne, Marie, Elizabeth, and Dorothee. My manor of Adderbury co. Oxon. The residue to my wife Margaret, sole executrix.

[No witnesses named].

Proved at Lamethith⁵ 4 May, 1509.

(14, Bennett).

1, Sparsholt. 2, Binfield. 3, Calais, France. 4 and 5, Lambeth.



Oxford Ladies' Archaeological and Brass Rubbing Society.

YEAR 1913-14.

President :

MISS SWANN, Walton Manor.

Committee :

President MISS SWANN.

Hon. Treasurer MISS LUCY SWANN.

Hon. Librarian MRS. WHITMARSH.

Hon. Secretaries..... MISS STONE.

MISS K. WARD.

Members of Committee., MRS. ODGERS.

MISS MEE.

MISS POYNTER.

MISS SPENCER THOMSON.

50 Members, 3 Honorary Members. 8 Candidates waiting for admission.

The Society has now completed its 20th year, and shows no falling off either in the number of its members or in the interest and value of the Papers read at meetings, of which this year there have been eight. It has not been found possible to have the usual excursion, principally owing to the fact that so many members were in the early part of the Summer preparing for and taking part in the Pageant of Literature, which was given in the Town Hall at the end of May ; and since then the terrible war and the wish of every one to economise as much as possible in pleasures so as to aid in Relief Funds, has made an excursion undesirable.

We have to record the very great loss the Society has sustained by the death of Miss Green, which took place on December 9th. She was one of the first members of the Society, and had filled the office of Librarian ever since 1895, only relinquishing it 1908 owing to failing health, but she continued to be a member of Committee and took the greatest interest in the Society to within a few

days of her death. As Librarian she did much valuable work, and especially so in keeping and tabulating the records of the Society so that reference to Papers is made easy. Miss Mee has succeeded to her place on the Committee.

The subjects treated on by the Lecturers has been very varied.

On October 15th, Mr. Edwin Cannan, M.A., read a Paper on "Milestones," with special reference to those of Oxfordshire.

On October 29th, Miss Legge gave a charming account of "Life in Japan," which she illustrated by Japanese pictures, needlework and various other things which she had herself brought from that country. This meeting was made even more interesting by the presence of two Japanese gentlemen, one of whom, Professor Hamada, the Professor of Archæology in Kioto, spoke in warm appreciation of Miss Legge's lecture. This meeting took place at 11, Chadlington Road, where Mr. and Mrs. E. Cannan most hospitably entertained the Society at tea.

On November 14th, the Annual General Meeting took place; it was held in Hannington Hall, and after the election of officers for the coming year Mr. C. E. Keyser, F.S.A., President British Archæological Association, and President of the Berkshire Archæological Society, read a paper on the "Berkshire Churches." This was profusely illustrated with beautiful photographic slides, which gave the Society some knowledge of the wealth of archæological interest to be found in the churches which Mr. Keyser so graphically described.

On December 2nd, Mrs. Braithwaite Batty gave a lecture on "Albert Dürer and Nürnberg" of a very interesting character.

On February 10th, Mrs. Parker lectured on "Oxfordshire Folklore and the Grammar of the Folk Dialect of the County," subjects new to the Society, but opening up a wide field for research.

The last meeting of the year took place, by kind invitation of Miss Mee, at Holywell House, when Mr. J. Hautenville Cope gave a paper very fully illustrated by fine photographs of Winchester Cathedral. He gave a very thrilling account of the way in which the restoration work was being carried out in strengthening the foundations, work which is attended with great difficulty and danger to those engaged in it. Mr. Cope showed an immense amount of knowledge of his subject, and his audience expressed much gratitude to him for the trouble he had taken for them. Miss Mee most hospitably entertained the large party at tea.

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—EXCURSION TO CHICHESTER.—The Berks Arch. Soc. made their two-days' excursion to Chichester on 11th and 12th June. Few of the cathedral cities of England can rival Chichester. Its cathedral is not so large and imposing a structure as some of the mighty episcopal buildings of our dioceses, but for quiet dignity and for unspoilt original beauty it is not surpassed by any other in the land. The city itself is full of objects of beauty and interest, the Market Cross, one of the finest in England, save perhaps that at Malmesbury; the Hospital of St. Mary, the quaint streets with their great variety of types of domestic architecture, houses covered with creeping greenness, from wisteria to ampelopsis, every door with its classic pillars and pediment, some grave and solid, such as Miss Austen's characters might have lived in, and at least one superb specimen of the art of Sir Christopher Wren, a masterpiece of substantial red brick, and a noble inn, the Dolphin, which the Society made its headquarters and where its guests dine in a room big enough for a ball-room. The city has many attractions, and the members of the Society found quite as much to interest them in it as at Gloucester, Wells, Warwick, and other places whither they have wandered since the programme of the Society has included a two-days' excursion. The success of the excursion is mainly due to the kind exertions of Mr. Gordon P. G. Hills, Surveyor of the Cathedral, who knows Chichester and its neighbourhood extremely well, and readily gave the Society the benefit of his wide knowledge.

Arriving at the Sussex city the party made its way to The Dolphin Hotel. After luncheon the proceedings commenced with a visit to the Cathedral, under the guidance of Mr. Gordon Hills, where the antiquaries were met by the Rev. Canon Jones (Canon in residence), Canon Masters, and Prebendary Bennett. Seated in the nave, the members listened to an admirable description of the history and architectural features of the splendid building. The first cathedral stood on the Island of Selsey, which was granted to St. Wilfrid, who converted the South Saxons to Christianity. Until the Conquest, Selsey remained the seat of the bishopric. The last Saxon prelate, Ethelric, received harsh treatment from the Conqueror, and was deprived, and the first Norman prelate, Stigand, moved the bishop's throne to Chichester. Ralph de Luffa, the third Norman bishop (1091-1123) began the present building. Fire played havoc with it in 1114, but it was rebuilt before the bishop's death in 1123. Fire again visited it in 1186, which prepared the way for the transitional builders, who were developing the beauties of English Gothic. Bishop Seffrid, the second who bore that name, was the director of the work; the clerestory, the upper storey of the western towers, and the middle storey of the central tower were mainly his work. Bishop Neville (1224-1244) designed and began to build a spire, and the Lady Chapel was partly constructed by Bishop Gilbert de St. Leofard (1288-1304), and John de Langton (1305-1336) the south window of the south transept. By this time the cathedral began to assume its present form. Want of space prevents us from describing the rest of the story of the building. The party then proceeded to walk round the cathedral, and their attention was drawn to the chapels of St. George and St. Clement, St. Anne, the Four Virgins, SS. Thomas and Edmund, and the site of the shrine of St. Richard, etc., the

tombs and monuments, the library with its treasures, the paintings of the Bishops of Chichester and the Kings of England by Bernardi, which were much injured by the soldiers in the Civil War and restored by an indifferent artist, and those of the founding of the see and of the four prebends by Henry VIII. and Bishop Sherbourne. An examination was also made of the bell-tower and of the ancient choir screen, which the antiquaries hoped would be replaced in the cathedral.

Mr. Gordon Hills then conducted the party to the Bishop's Palace, which is a building of many dates and shared in the fires that demolished the Cathedral. The chapel was the work of Seffrid, and possessed some charming Early English painting, the Virgin and Child and two consecration crosses. The dining-room probably originated in the time of Bishop Ware (1418-1421) is a lofty hall extending as high as the roof. It was divided into an upper and lower storey by Bishop Sherbourne, who remodelled the whole palace in the Tudor style. He died in 1536. It contains some portraits of the holders of the See, including Bishop Wilberforce and the present bishop. The old kitchen, with its huge fireplace, gives an idea of the hospitality of the bishops in former days. No barons of beef now are roasted before the great fire, and the modern kitchen is in another part of the palace. This one was probably built on old foundations about 1380, to which date the fine roof commonly attributed to Bishop Sherbourne may more fitly be assigned. The palace was sold to a private gentleman during the Commonwealth period, but was restored to the see at the Restoration. It was remodelled by Bishop Waddington in 1727, and Bishop Buckner in 1800 made sundry alterations in accordance with the taste of the time, and brought it very much to its present condition.

The party then adjourned to the hotel for tea, and afterwards visited St. Mary's Hospital, that unique example of almshouse, which was described by Canon Masters, the Custos, and Mr. Gordon Hills. A visit was then paid to Priory Park, where stands all that remains of the Greyfriars' monastery. Alderman Holt met the members there, and Mr. Gordon Hills stated that the friars removed to this place from their original home at St. Mary's Hospital about the year 1253. The fine church was the scene of an ordination by Bishop Peckham in 1283. It sometimes bears the name of the Guild Hall, because the Guild merchants used to hold their meetings there, and the assizes were once held in it. Time only allowed a glance in passing at the famous "Pudens" inscription stone fixed in the wall of the Council Chamber, which was dug up in 1823 on a site on the opposite side of the little street to the north of its present position. A wonderful amount of ingenuity has been expended in surmises about the persons named, but it is most valuable as confirming the mention by Tacitus of the British King and Imperial Legate Cogidistonus, and bears witness to the existence of a flourishing community in those early days when the Guild of Artificers dedicated a Temple to Neptune and Minerva. The party was conducted to visit one of the old houses, which contains a fine plaster ceiling and was the city dwelling of the Earl of Scarborough, where he entertained Queen Elizabeth, who there received the homage of the Corporation. Needle-making was then a special industry of the city, and the Queen was so struck with the busy scene that she exclaimed "I trow this is a very Little London." This name is still applied to a street in the city. The market cross, which greeted the visitors whenever they issued from their hotel, may be claimed as the finest example

in England, and was the gift of Bishop Storey in 1502. Its present appearance is due to a restoration by the Duke of Richmond in 1748. Rain prevented the intended perambulation of the city walls, the oft repeated assertion of whose Roman origin an examination of the foundations, a few years since, fully confirmed, but an opportunity was taken to drive past those of the N.W. quarter on starting for the drive on Friday afternoon, so that our members might have some idea of these remains.

Dinner was served at The Dolphin, and then the members adjourned to the Council Chamber, where they were received by the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Garland. There was an exhibition of the Corporation plate and charters of the city. Alderman Holt described the former, which has passed through sundry vicissitudes. It was all sold in 1836, when the Corporation was reformed. Then certain gentlemen of the City formed a Mace Society and purchased the plate and preserved it until recent times, when the society presented it to the Corporation, and pieces that had passed into private hands followed its example. It consists of a large mace of the time of Charles II., two sergeants' maces, cup salt cellars, state walking-sticks, etc. Chichester also possesses a "Mock" Corporation, known as that of St. Pancras, possessing a mace and mayor's chain of office. This curious body was founded in 1689 to celebrate the coming of William of Orange and the principles for which he stood, and possesses a loving cup and other treasures. The charters of the city were described by the Town Clerk, Mr. Loader Cooper, and include a very early one granted by King Stephen. There are two given by Henry II., and others by successive monarchs. A great curiosity is the "Moon," a balloon-shaped lantern placed on a pole, that used to be carried before the Mayor to guide him homewards on dark evening.

At the close of the evening the President, Mr. Keyser, expressed to the Mayor the cordial thanks of the Society for his hospitality, and to the speakers who had so ably described the treasures of the city. So ended the proceedings of the first day of the excursion.

On Friday Bosham was visited, one of the most interesting churches in Sussex. It was very ably described by the Vicar, the Rev. K. H. Macdermott, who has published a guide to his church which contains abundant information concerning it. Want of space prevents us from giving a résumé of his excellent address. The visitors then drove to Kingly Vale, one of the most famous beauty spots in Sussex. It was the scene of a battle between the Saxons and the Danes, and seven Kings of the Danes were killed in the slaughter, and the mounds or tumuli on the summit of the hill are supposed to be their graves. These barrows are really neolithic. The vale has a wonderful grove of yews and a single oak that seems to date back to pre-historic days. A long walk over the Downs was much enjoyed and enabled the antiquaries to inspect some pit-dwellings which have recently been excavated. They then drove back to Chichester for lunch, and set out again for Boxgrove Church, which rivals Bosham in interest and importance. It was a monastic church with a parochial church attached to it.* There the party was wel-

*The Church of St. Mary, Boxgrove, was granted c. 1105 by Robert de Haia (Ralf being Bishop of Chichester) to the Abbev of the Holy Trinity, France. This grant was confirmed by his grandsons, William and Robert de St. John. Their mother, Cecilia Haia, married Robert de St. John. From this marriage descend the St. Johns, Lords of Basing, Hants, and Halnaker, Sussex, and Shefford, Berks.—Round, *cal. of Document, France*. Ibid. The families of St. John and de Port.

comed by the Vicar, the Rev. Richard Wells, the son of Mr. Wells, of Scarletts, Wargrave, who with Mr. Gordon Hills described the building and entertained the members to tea. The drive to Chichester was quickly accomplished, where the 5.14 train was waiting to convey the party back to Berkshire. It is always a pleasure to the members of the Berks Society to meet those of the Newbury District Field Club, and it is hoped that ere long the two bodies may be able to arrange another joint excursion. The cordial thanks of the Society were due to Mr. Gordon Hills for the trouble he had taken in helping to arrange this excursion, to the Hon. Secretary, and to Mr. E. Ravenscroft, who very ably carried out the details and arranged for the comfort and convenience of the members, who will long retain very happy memories of their visit to Chichester.

NEWBURY DISTRICT FIELD CLUB.—Mr. A. E. Gathorne-Hardy, President of the Newbury District Field Club, occupied the chair at the 44th annual meeting on May 25th. He remarked that his first observations were tinged with sadness and regret at the losses during the past year. Mr. Wm. Keep, who joined in 1875, had a wonderful knowledge of the district, and his store of anecdote and history made him a most delightful companion; Mr. Belcher, who joined in 1878, was nearly always present at their excursions, he was a native of the Vale, and full of the interesting folk-lore of that part of the County. They had also lost Mr. J. T. Strange, who joined in 1876. Their Secretary had already expressed in each case the sincere sense of loss felt by the members. Continuing, the President reviewed the excursions undertaken last year, and acknowledged the excellent arrangements made by Mr. Watts. As regards his own branch of field-work, which was natural history, the past year had been rather a special one. The Plumage Bill, to prevent the importation into this country of the feathers taken from rare birds during the breeding season, had been taken up as a Government measure, and he felt confident that it would become law. He therefore hoped that all the brutalities for so-called fashion would become a thing of the past, as they had done in America. He had had the pleasure of studying the habits of the grey seal in its home in the Hebrides; this beast was much more rare than the ordinary seal, and much larger in length and weight. Its young were covered with a beautiful white fur, and they possessed lovely dark eyes; they were born on the rocks, and unable to take to the water for some three weeks. It had been the practice of the natives at these breeding times to club the creatures to death, but he rejoiced that a measure had now been actually passed setting up a close time for grey seals. He felt that he might specially congratulate himself upon this, inasmuch as Mr. Hesketh Pritchard, who was as great a naturalist as he was a cricketer, had been prominent in getting the measure through, in association with his own son, Mr. A. Gathorne-Hardy. He was happy, too, at the great increase of sympathy to-day in these matters, as, in addition to the law, sentiment had greatly changed, and many people now were quite as fond of watching or photographing a bird or beast as they had formerly been ready to shoot them. It might interest the members to see some bird photographs taken by his son (Mr. G. Gathorne-Hardy) at Donnington Priory; these included a moorhen hatching her eggs, a sedgetit feeding a young cuckoo, a thrush feeding her young, the mother bird having in her beak a worm that greatly resembled a wedding-ring in shape. He hoped that this feeling of interest

and sympathy would grow as time went on, and that in increasing numbers they might see the birds hopping about their gardens, and feeding from their hands, as many now did at Donnington Priory.

The accounts, audited by Dr. E. Somerset, were presented by Mr. Watts, viz. : Receipts (including balance in hand at beginning of year £23 0s. 10d.) amounted to £58 6s. 4d., the expenditure £43 0s. 8d., leaving a balance of £15 5s. 8d. Mr. Keyser proposed the re-election of the President, which was seconded by Mr. Money, and adopted. The Vice-Presidents were re-elected. The General Committee was re-appointed. The Central Committee, viz. : Rev. C. L. Jeayes, Dr. E. Somerset, Mr. F. Comyns, and Captain Stuart. Mr. Watts was re-elected as hon. secretary and treasurer. The meeting then discussed the excursions for the ensuing season. The decision as to these will be determined by the Central Committee. This concluded the business, and the members adjourned for tea ; at its close the President gave a reading of " Thomas Hood, his life and works," which was greatly enjoyed.

On Monday, July 20th, the Newbury District Field Club made an excursion to the villages of Hampstead Norris, Aldworth, Ashampstead, Yattendon and Frilsham. Hampstead Norris Church was first visited, where they were welcomed by the Vicar (Rev. H. G. W. Cooper) and Mr. Jethro Lousley, the octogenarian churchwarden. The Vicar led the way to the vestry, where the registers, dating back to 1538, were shown, together with the list of the incumbents from the year 1298, and the Churchwardens and Overseers Accounts from 1636. Returning into the Church, he assured the visitors that they had a hearty welcome, and hoped Mr. Keyser would tell the story of the fabric. Mr. Keyser said he could not do better than refer them to the account given by Mr. Money, and subsequently published when the Club visited the Church in 1885, and he regretted that Mr. Money was not able to be with them. The Church was undoubtedly late Norman, and had retained its original form without much alteration until its restoration 30 or 40 years ago, at which time the old Norman font was discarded and it was now in the parish church of Stone, near Aylesbury. The earliest mention of the parish was in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and it had taken its later name from the family of Norreys settled here, who were the owners of large estates. He would place the date of the church at about 1170. The rood loft, with an abrupt termination of the staircase was a feature, also an indistinct mural painting. The tower belonged to the 15th or 16th century. In the church were to be seen several memorials, including those to the Lowsley family—Joseph Lowsley, 1765—1825 ; Job Lousley, 1790—1855 ; Luke Lowsley, 1828—1892.

The journey was resumed for Aldworth Church, where the first object to arrest attention was the ancient yew tree, measuring nine yards round. The age of which, as placed by a member of the Royal Horticultural Society, who had recently visited Aldworth, might be anything between one thousand and two thousand years. Entering the sacred edifice, the Field Club was received by the Rev. G. F. Matthews, the Vicar, who led the party round the Church, so that a personal inspection should be made of the priceless monuments of antiquity which are here to be seen. He then proceeded to describe the nine recumbent effigies, identifying these ancestors and giving short descriptive notices of each. The De la Beches were a large and powerful family who came over from Normandy soon after the Conquest and

managed to get a good deal of land at Aldworth, Compton, Bradfield, and other parts of the County. Some time since, whilst ploughing near the site of what was De la Beche's Castle, a seal had been discovered which had assisted in ascertaining information hitherto in doubt as to the members of this family. The canopies of the tombs represented the several periods of architecture, the Decorative, the Transitional and the Perpendicular. Leaving the monuments, the Vicar spoke of the visit of Queen Elizabeth. Up to this time, a parchment had been suspended from the south wall giving a pedigree of the family of De la Beche. It was then taken down to show the Queen, and the Earl of Leicester put it in his pocket and it was never seen again. The barrel font was not later than the 12th century. Some carved seat ends were pointed out, also the carving of the reading desk and pulpit, both of which came from the Church of St. Laurence, Reading. It is recorded that the chancel was completed in 1315, and was consecrated on St. Peter's Day by the Bishop of St. David's acting for the Bishop of Salisbury, in whose diocese Aldworth then was. A visit was made not long since by Mr. Stanley Weyman, the historical novelist, who examined the monuments and declared that the armour, as represented in the several effigies, was perfectly correct in all the details. Both Mr. Keyser and the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield spoke briefly, the latter giving incidents as recorded of the De la Beches. In passing through the vestry, the outline of a face was seen affixed to the wall and enclosed in a frame. It is believed to be meant for the face of Our Lord. Below was the inscription :—

" Jesus Held His Peace."

" This carving was found concealed in the brickwork in the church in 1845 ; was lost ; but brought to the church in 1884. It probably belonged to the bracket at the foot of the monument of Sir John De la Beche."

Having left the church, the party sat down to luncheon. Before leaving, the following new members were elected : Mr. G. Gidley Robinson, of Donnington Square, Newbury ; Miss F. Waldron, Coley Avenue, Reading ; Mrs. May, of Oxford Road, Newbury. A beautiful drive led to Ashampstead Church. Here the party were received by the Rev. C. A. Williamson, the Vicar, who had laid out for inspection the Church Books, the Communion Plate, and some interesting documents. The register dates from 1612. The Church was formerly in connection with Basildon. There is evidence that in 1329 Sir Gilbert de Ellerfield gave land to King Edward III. for the Manor of Ashampstead. No record of the clergy from 1323 to 1607 are extant. Documents relating to the Court Manor and Court Leet extend from 1758 to 1885, and memoranda gave particulars as to the places at which halts were made to serve refreshments when beating the bounds. In 1769 there were four bells, three of which were sold for a clock, and the clock was ultimately sold for 5s. The church was restored in 1895. The population had kept pretty uniform ; in 1811 it was 334, and when last taken 340. Mr. Keyser, in the course of his remarks, spoke of the church having been built at the beginning of the 13th century and directed attention to the paintings to be seen on the walls, representing the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity, and the Angel appearing to the Shepherds. There was a further fragment not readily deciphered. The next part of the journey was delightful through Ashampstead Common, where the variety of the woodland, the different kinds of timber and the undulating character of the country with the number of neat and newly-erected residences, was a pleasing experience.

Yattendon Court was the next halting place. Here the party were welcomed by Mrs. and Miss Waterhouse, and a number of bronze objects were laid out to view. These had been discovered during the digging for the foundations of the new house, and found at a depth of 450 feet above the sea level. They consisted of spear heads and fragments, socketed gouges, knives and fragments of bronze. Though no date was given, yet, these objects belonged to an early period before iron was used.* Permission was also given to visit the grounds, and Miss Waterhouse showed great pleasure in leading to the points of interest and to those spots where charming bits of scenery were visible. A magnificent avenue of coniferæ was a feature much admired. Leaving the Court, the visitors descended into the village, took tea at the Reading Room and afterwards visited the Church, under the guidance of the Rector, the Rev. A. Barrington Simeon. Assembling near the chancel steps, Mr. Keyser spoke of the church as being one which was practically begun and finished at one time, probably about 1450—60. The screen was 15th century work, as also the door leading to the rood-loft. The roof was a good example of that period. The panelling and pulpit were Jacobean work. The list of Rectors commenced with 1297. The registers having been mentioned, Mrs. Hautenville Cope said that she transcribed the registers for Canon Beeching (who is now the Dean of Norwich) in 1898. There were three books of the respective dates of 1538, 1620 and 1678. Mrs. Cope then proceeded to illustrate some of the characteristics of the registers. It was remarked that the Manor House (which, however, time would not allow to be visited) was even more interesting historically than the Church, inasmuch as it belonged to King Alfred, and is mentioned in his will.† Before leaving the Church, a look round was made of the tablets. That to Mr. Alfred Waterhouse being the most modern. It was by that gentleman, and at his expense, that the Church was restored.

At Frilsham Church, Mr. Keyser, who described the building, spoke of it as being all of one date, and curiously, it was dedicated to St. Frideswide, for what reason he could not say. The windows and chancel arch were Norman, and it had a nice open roof. Evidently it had not much of a history architecturally, nor had there been much change of ownership, for Lysons devoted only seven or eight lines to this parish.‡ It was a perfect little Church, divided into three parts. The Rector, the Rev. G. Floyd, in reply to Mr. Keyser, said the Church was restored by his father many years ago, before these things were much understood. One of his early recollections as a boy was the lid of a Bible with a chain affixed to a pew, but he could not say what had become of it.

*Sir John Evans (Ancient Bronze Implements) considers the beginning of the Bronze Age in Britain at about 1200 B.C. See also Edward Clodd, "Story of Primitive Man."—J. H. COPE.

† Ashampstead is not mentioned by name in the text of King Alfred's Will in the "Liber Vitæ" of Hyde Abbey, published by the Hampshire Record Society.—J. H. COPE.

‡ See Berks, Bucks and Oxon Archæol. Journ., xviii., 72-77, article by J. Horace Round, LL.D., "The Manorial Descent of Frilsham."

Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1912—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

MARRIAGES AT ST. LAURENCE, READING, 1754-1762.—Before 1754 we naturally expect to find more names of strangers in the Old Parish Registers. I will take the Registers of St. Laurence, Reading, to see how the names of strangers occur after 1754. There were about an average of 21 weddings a year, and it would appear that the marriages were more local after the passing of the Marriage Act. For some years we find the marriages of soldiers taking place, the following regiments being mentioned: General Stewart's Regiment, the 30th Regiment, Lord Albemarle's Dragoons, and in 1760 it is evident that Colonel Hodgson's 5th Regiment was stationed in the town, as many marriages took place. There was a fifer in that regiment. The Bann Book 1762 to 1772 gives marriages not in the Register Book, which ends 1762. Taking the names of strangers married we find Jonah Lewiton of Swallowfield, David Davies clerk of St. Saviour's, Southwark, James Draper of Tilehurst, George Thorpe of Sonning, Thomas Armstrong of Cookham, Samuel Smith of Goring, George Biddell of Windsor, Giles Wilson of Bucklebury, John Bishop of Basingstoke, William Cotterell of Pangbourne, Henry Green of Wantage, John Moreton of Little Marlow, Thomas Laud of Caversham, Abraham Ley of Henley, Thomas Mundy of London, Church Westbury of Ashampstead, John Wright of Stratfieldsaye, Thomas Lawrence of Newbury, John Minchin of Sulhamstead, John Golding of Caversham, Robert Leach of Goring, Francis Parr of Abingdon, John Ireland of Swallowfield, Lawrence Webb of Goring, James Isherwood of London, Samuel Howard of London, John Trollope clerk of Bucklebury, George Cheshire of Sonning, Sir Thomas Coke of Windsor Castle (a marriage not recorded, by the way, in Burke). These are all the strangers' names given 1754-1762. Among the women from different parishes we find Basildon, Hendon, Sonning, Wallingford, London and Mapledurham, each occurs once.—E. E. COPE.

Queries.

INFORMATION WANTED.

KIDLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.—In Vol. XXIV. Oxford Historical Society Series "Three Oxfordshire Parishes," 1893, p. 92, it is stated:—"After the death of Sir William Morton this estate (Hampden Manor) was sold by Sir James Morton, his son, to William Pudsey of Elsfield, and during his ownership the house was let to one Finmore of Oxford, whose marriage with Mrs. Deborah

Coaley of Oxford, took place in the Parish Church 23 April, 1704." This, I think, is incorrect. Thomas Fynmore referred to was a scout of New College, and afterwards, according to Hearne, sold drink near the Museum, Oxford, his wife, on the same authority, was a niece of Mrs. Jacob Bobart, she died 1721, and her husband 1725, however, it is quite probable that the Pudsey's let the house to a Fynmore, as one or more of that name lived in the neighbourhood. In a deed of 16 October, 1708, Richard Fynmore is described as "of Hampton Gay, co. Ox. Esquire, son and heir of William Fynmore, late of Abingdon, co. Berks, Esq., deceased." The latter in his will dated 14 June, 1687, requests that "my interest in my chambers in the Inner Temple, to my executrix in trust for my son, and my friends Thomas Doleman, Simon Harcourt, and *William Pudsey*, to aid her in disposing of the said chambers." This William Fynmore was Recorder of Abingdon, and was succeeded in that office by his friend Simon Harcourt, afterwards Lord Chancellor.

Although many memorials in Kidlington Church are enumerated in Mrs. Stapleton's book, the one to a John Fynmore escaped notice, and not to be wondered at, as Mr. Rand writing to me in 1858, stated that he had "to creep quite under the bottom of the galley" to find it. I visited the church in September last, and easily discovered it in the Sydenham Chapel on the floor partly under the last seat on the south side. The original inscription should read thus :—

HERE LIETH THE BODY OE
MR. JOHN FYNMORE
UNCLE OF
RICHARD FYNMORE ESQ
DECEASED.

No date is given. The uncle John Fynmore of Kidlington-on-the-Green, gent., proved his mother's will 1698, administered to his nephew's effects 18 Nov., 1728, and was buried in Kidlington Church 29 August, 1729, his will dated 2 June, 1729 was proved 6 May, 1730, in it there is a bequest "to Mr. William Phillips, who now liveth with me, for his trouble in attending me, the residue went to Coghill Knapp, attorney, of Bletchington.

The nephew was probably buried at Hinksey as there is an entry in the register of that parish 27 Sept., 1728, and a memorial slab within the chancel rails inscribed "Here lyeth the Body of Elizabeth, Wife of Richard Fynmore, of Kidlington, who died the 15th of November, 1716." I have failed to discover any further memorial of Richard Fynmore of Kidlington.

The Kidlington Memorial is not only remarkable as being without dates, but the vacant space at the top has been utilized to record the burial of a member of the Sanders family in 1776, probably some connection; as Mrs. Jane Fynmore in her will 1690/1 names her cousin Mrs. Jane Saunders, who may be the same as recorded in the register of burials at St. Helen's, Abingdon, 18 June, 1698, "Mrs. Jane Saunders, widow of an Esquire."

At page 134 of the "History of the Three Parishes" it is stated that "appended to the lease of the Mill at Kidlington, in the archives of Exeter College, is a seal bearing 'Ermine, two chevronels,' this is the same coat as borne by Finmore, of Hinksey; possibly it may have been used here by Finmore of Kidlington as witness to this Deed." The date, I understand, is 1666, as the Christian name is not given I cannot state which Fynmore this would be, but imagine it must be William who died 1677, buried at Hinksey, Will proved 2 July, 1677, he appointed "his friend, Thomas Rowney, of the University of Oxford, and John Wickham, of Garsington, gent., overseers of his will."

The arms are certainly on the monuments in Ferry Hinksey Church, impaling Wickham, but at the Herald's Visitation 1665/6 John Fynmore of Abingdon disclaimed "for my father William Finmore of North Hinksey, and for myself," notwithstanding the arms have been in use ever since. These armorial bearings form a quartering in the Money-Kyrle family, through the marriage of Mary, daughter of Roger Fynmore of Whetham House, co. Wilts, to Michael Ernley. The late Mr. Phillimore considered that the family of Fynmore of Whetham

derived from Finnere in Oxfordshire. He writes : " When we remember that Gilbert de Finemore was holder of a manor under Gilbert de Clare, whose predecessor in the overlordship was King John, who had a residence in Finnere, it seems far more likely that he and William Fitz Gregory were cadets of de Clare rather than strangers. In such case it would be appropriate that they should use similar Christian names and *adopt a modification of the Clare shield.*"—R. J. FYNMORE.

KENDRICK FAMILY.—I have recently found the following Marriage Licence, Salisbury, 1629 : " Kendricke, Thomas, of St. Giles in Reading, clothier, 22, and Mary Finnamore, of North *Inksie*, co. Berks, sp. 20. 28 Ap." On referring to Berks, Bucks and Oxon Journal, Vol. 8, No. 2, p. 61, I see that Thomas Kendrick was baptised 7 Dec., 1606; and in Vol. 7, No. 4, p. 122, that he married Martha, dau. to Sir Henry Davy, his eldest son William being aged 32. In Coates's History of Reading, there are extracts from the registers of St. Giles as under :—Marriages : 1630, Feb. 14, Mr. Thomas Kendricke and Mrs. Martha Davye. Baptisms : 1631, Dec. 26, William Kenricke, the sonne of Thomas. 1637, Thomas Kenrick, son of Thomas and Martha. 1641, John Kendrick, son of Thomas and Martha. In St. Mary's register there is the burial of Henry, son of Mr. Thomas Kendrick, 15 Feb., 1640. The pedigree above referred to as at p. 122 B. B. & O. Journal, gives in addition daughters, Martha, Jane and Elizabeth. Did the marriage of Thomas Kendrick to Mary Finnamore take place, and if so when did she die, and was she the mother of William, baptised in 1631, it is noticeable that he is described as son of Thomas, whereas the remainder as of Thomas and Martha? In 1592 (see Acts of the Privy Council) William Fynmore, Thomas Lydall and John Newman, of Reading, are all described as " Mercers." They were also all connected by marriage—Newman married Anne Kendrick, whose brother William married Jane Lydall—and Fynmore if the above first-named marriage took place. Later on there was a relationship through the marriage of Elizabeth Lydall to Thomas Mayott, mayor of Abingdon, 1605, whose grand-daughter Jane married Richard Fynmore, see M.L., St. Laurence's Church, Reading.—R. J. FYNMORE.

ROMAN ROAD FROM SPEEN.—In a MSS. note-book of Rev. Thomas Leman, of Bath [1751-1826], the course of the Roman road from Speen westwards is thus described : " Also from Spene to Wickham Chapple, from thence to Clapham high raised with pollards on it to a great ash tree, *then to a new brick house built by Mr. Savage*, thence thro' a wood called Winding Wood, where it is visible with ditches on each side, thence thro' Rugeley Farm . . ." [now Radley Farm]. The above description was probably taken by Leman from the MSS. of Smart Lethienllier [1701-1760]. In another MSS. book of Sir Richard Colt Hoare there occurs the following relating to Mr. Savage : " Who, in clearing a little coppice to make a garden about 1732, was obliged to remove an entire piece of the bank [of the Roman road], where he found the strata of sand and gravel near the surface, and under them several layers of flints and great stones laid in a bed of mortar." Sir Richard here gives a reference to " Smart Lethienllier MSS., p. 359." I have ascertained that Isaac Savage was supervisor at Kintbury (1731 and 1740) and churchwarden 1736. Where did he reside? The " new brick house " referred to, and presumably built just before 1732 when the garden was built, must be either Elgar's Farm or Orpenham Farm or one of the other two adjacent homesteads. The point is important, because it will help to determine with precision the course of the Roman road at this place, where it is now obliterated. Regarding the general course of the road in question, I may point out that it was correctly traced by Mr. Harold Peake in the Berks Archaeological Journal. The fact is of interest, because neither Mr. Peake nor, in all probability, the Sandhurst engineers of 1836 had either seen the account of the eighteenth century archaeologists, and all three arrived at the same results. The identification of the modern Bath Road with the Roman road, though as old as Lysons, is entirely unsupported by evidence.—O. G. S. CRAWFORD.

HIGH CHIMNIES, HURST.—On the side of this grand old house are four bricks with the date 1661 and the following initials :—W.G., 1661; G.C., 1661; M.D., 1661; T.G., 1661. Can anyone explain? The bricks are all in line.—E. E. COPE.

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HATFORD (NEW) CHURCH



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Fig. 43. The Norman Font



Fig. 44. From the South

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Fig. 45. From the South East.

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Fig. 46. Interior of Chancel

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Fig. 47. Window and Piscina South Side of Chancel



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Fig. 48. North Side of Chancel



Fig. 49. Founders Tomb, North Side of Chancel

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HATFORD CHURCH

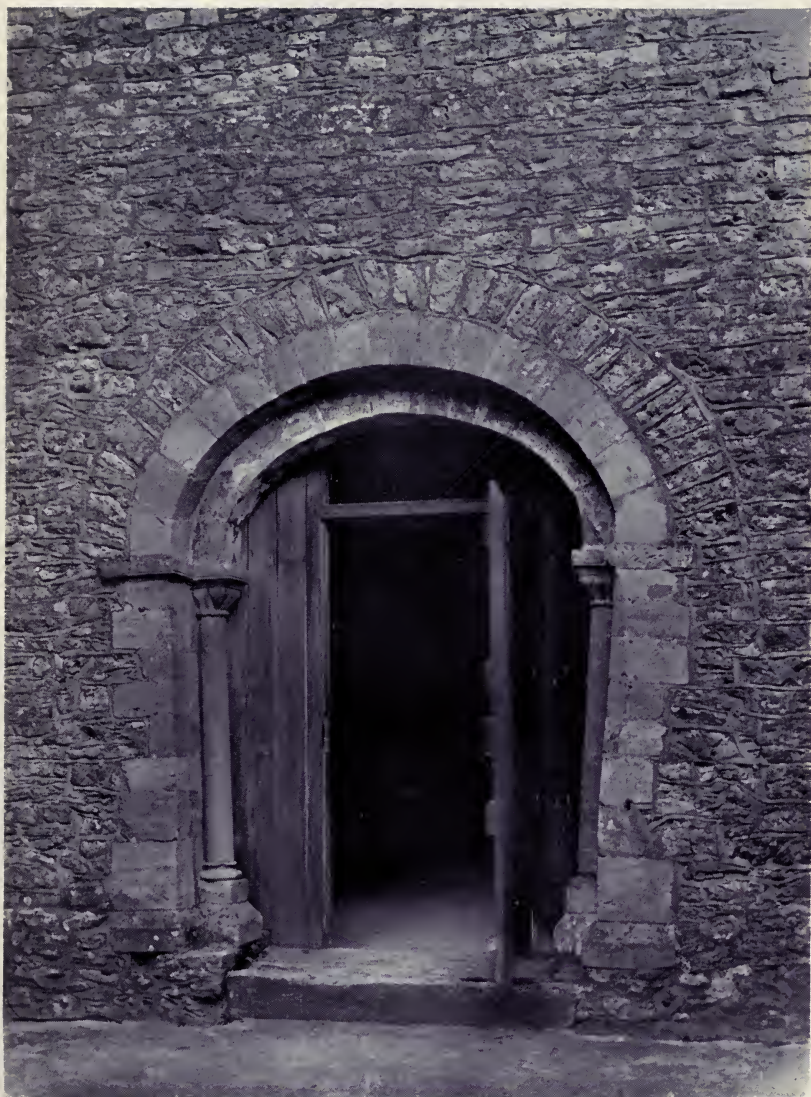


Fig. 50. The Chancel Arch

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Fig. 51. View from the North West

HATFORD CHURCH



Fig. 52. The East Window

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HATFORD CHURCH



Fig. 53. The South Doorway

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HATFORD CHURCH



Fig. 54. Details of South Doorway

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The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Notes on the Churches of Stanford-in-the-Vale, Hatford and Shellingford and the Chapels of Goosey and Baulking.

By Charles E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A.

(Read before the Berks Archæological Society, March 26th, 1914.)

(Continued from page 72).

Continuing our round we arrive after a two-mile drive at Hatford, where a new Church was erected in 1873. As usual, the history of this parish is very meagre, there being no source available to the ordinary student to acquire any detailed information on the subject. We learn from Lyson's *Magna Britannia* that in the time of Henry III. the Manor belonged to Sir Robert de Hatford. At a later period it belonged to Thomas Chaucer, son of the poet, and was probably part of the inheritance of his wife, who was an heiress of the family of Burgherst. Alice, the daughter and heir of Thomas Chaucer, brought it in marriage to William De la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, and her sumptuous monument still remains in Ewelme Church. It became vested in the Crown by attainder in the reign of King Henry VIII., and was soon afterwards granted in fee farm to Sir Alexander Unton, in whose family it continued till the death

of Sir Henry Unton in 1596. Of late years it has undergone "considerable alienations," though the Pigott family seems to have been the leading residents and Lords of the Manor in the 17th and 18th centuries.

As has been already stated, a new Church has been erected here in 1873, presumably because the old Church was not sufficiently large for the requirements of the parish, though the population is still under 100. The ancient Norman font (Fig. 43) has been moved into the new Church. It has a very large plain circular bowl, and is now supported on engaged shafts. The old Church (Fig. 44), dedicated to St. James, is stated to be 67 feet long by 15½ feet wide. We are told that in it was celebrated the marriage of Sir Edward Unton with Anne Seymour, widow of the Earl of Warwick, daughter of the Protector Somerset, and first cousin of King Edward VI. The Church (Fig. 45) consists of nave and chancel. The nave is roofless except at the west end, where an Egyptian mausoleum has been most inappropriately erected. The chancel is quite denuded of its former furniture and fittings. Some years ago, on a previous visit to the Church, it was found to be in a most neglected state, but steps have, it is believed, been recently taken to rescue it from its forlorn condition, and to stop the further ravages of decay. It appears to have been wholly erected rather late in the Norman period, the only subsequent alterations being the insertion of larger windows chiefly in the latter part of the 13th century.

Let us as usual commence our survey in the interior of the chancel (Fig. 46). The east window is of three lights, with three trefoil-headed lancets under a single containing arch. Here are preserved some fragments of heraldic glass, viz., sable 3 pickaxes arg for Pigott, impaling arg a chevron ermine. The gates of the Yate family also appear, illustrating the alliance between Robert Pigott, of Collwick, and Maria, daughter of John Yate, of Lyford. This east window has had a large containing arch, but the head has been cut away. On the south wall in the usual place is a rounded trefoil-headed piscina (Fig. 47) with plain circular basin of the transitional Norman date. To the west is a two-light early decorated window, with two trefoil-headed lancets and a quatrefoil in the head, within a very widely splayed containing arch. Within the quatrefoil are four ancient diamond quarries, two with delicate foliage on them. The south chancel doorway is plain segmental-headed on the interior side. On the inner jamb on each side is inserted a stone with a row of small beads on it, and there is a similar one let into the north

splay of the east window. These must have belonged to a former Norman arch. Cut out on the east jamb of the doorway is a small Maltese cross and a rose. At the west end, on the south side, is a single trefoil-headed lancet low side window widely splayed on the interior side. On the north of the chancel (Fig. 48), near the east end, is a widely splayed Norman window, semi-circular headed, and with a roll moulding round the containing arch. At the west end is a plain oblong light. In the centre, on the north side, is a founder's tomb (Fig. 49) with segmental-headed canopy in two recessed orders, and the quarter round moulding. The terminations of the canopy have been cut away. At the apex is let in the head of a priest, and there is a stone bracket within the canopy, but neither of these seem to belong. Below lies the effigy of a civilian with bare head and curly hair, and long single vestment down to the ankles. The garment has open sleeves, showing the hands and arms up to the elbows. His head rests on a pillow, his feet on a dog lying on its side. He holds a heart clasped to his breast in both hands. The effigy is about six feet three inches in length. Ashmole mentions this, as does Lysons, who states that it is supposed to be that of the founder, who is said by tradition to have been Sir Robert de Hatford. Parker, in the *Ecclesiastical Topography*, calls it a priest, which is clearly wrong. It is undoubtedly the monument of a civilian of the early part of the 14th century, and probably commemorates the good man who provided the cost for the Early Decorated windows late in the 13th century.

It is, however, difficult to attempt to identify the personage whom this effigy commemorates. His heart, and not his body, was probably interred here, and that he was a civilian and not a soldier is evidenced by his having a dog, instead of a lion, at his feet. The costume is not that of the ordinary merchant or business man of the early part of the 14th century, and it would be hazardous to suggest what had been his walk in life. In the series of De la Beche effigies at Aldworth Church the latest one on the south side of the nave has somewhat similar costume, and in the very fine collection of drawings of monumental effigies made by my late grandfather, Mr. Edward Blore, are two examples of figures corresponding in their costume with the one under notice, namely, at Darley Church, Derbyshire, and Edenham Church, Lincolnshire. He does not seem to have known of this example at Hatford. Perhaps it may be possible to throw some further light on this subject from documentary evidence which no doubt can be obtained to elucidate the

history of the parish. On the floor is a blue slab with the following inscription in capital letters :—

Here lyeth buried the Body of Francis Piggott
Esq^r Sonne and Heire of Robert Piggott of
Colwicke in the County of Bucks Esq^r. He
Married Margaret one of y^e Daughters of Alban
Butler of Aston in y^e wales in y^e County of
Northampton Esq^r by whom he had issue vii soñes
and iii daughters. he deceased the third day [effaced thus]
Day of December An^o Dm 1614 Ætatis suæ 68.

Above is a large shield with 3 pickaxes for Piggott impaling a chevron between three cups for Butler. In the top left-hand corner is another shield, Piggott impaling a saltire engrailed and in chief two mullets for Evenby or Enderby, his grandmother, and in top right-hand corner another shield, Piggott impaling Yate for his mother. There are on the floor several black marble slips with inscriptions :—

- (1) to Margaret wife of Francis Pigott Esquier was buried January 30th 1667.
- (2) Martha wife of Alban Pigot Esquier buried February 12th 1620.
- (3) a white stone to Edward Pigott died 1707.
- (4) at east end to Judeth the eldest daughter of William late Lord Bishop of Oxon and late wife of Alban Pigott died April 10th 1667.
- (5) Alban second son of Alban Pigott " Lord of this Maner and Patron of this Parsonage." died April 3 1679.
- (6) Mary Maw died 1761.

There is a large white stone with long inscription to the Revd. Mr. Edward Cranke, who died in 1756. He was a distinguished man, and according to his epitaph, had he been ambitious, might have attained to higher honours. He was Rector of Hatford and Standford, formerly Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, Oxford, where he provided instruction for many eminent men. There is a white stone to his wife Elizabeth, who died in 1729. On the north wall is a tablet to John Tyrrell, who died in 1762, and Elizabeth, his wife, who died in 1760. There is some Jacobean panelling along the east wall. The chancel arch (Fig. 50) is low Norman much depressed, as the piers on both sides have given way. It has two plain recessed orders with grooved and chamfered abacus, the

inner order supported on shafts, that on north side new, with scalloped capitals. The bases rest on plinths about 18 inches above the floor level. There are considerable remains of red colour on the inner order.

The nave is roofless except at the west end. The north window is of four lights, square-headed with four trefoil-headed lancets, and further west is a single lancet. On the south side is a four-light window also square-headed with late Perpendicular or debased lights, the same size as that on the north. Further west is a single trefoil-headed lancet. All these decorated windows have wooden lintels. The west end is blocked by a large mausoleum to the Rev. Samuel and Mrs. Paynter. The west window is long and narrow of two lights with quatrefoil in the head of the Early Decorated period. The old plaster remains on the west portion of the nave, with faint traces of colour. On the occasion of a previous visit in 1898, the following paintings were noted, and are mentioned in a paper published in the *Archæological Journal*, Vol. LVIII., p. 55. On the south wall to the west of the doorway is a masonry pattern and two figures under a canopy, probably portraying the Annunciation. The masonry pattern is continued along the west wall. Round the windows on the north and south of nave was a pattern of loops in red. There was then, and still is, the red colour on the soffit of the Chancel arch. There were roses in red within the splay of the Norman window on the north side of the Chancel, and red colouring round the interior arch of the south Chancel doorway. Very little of this now remains. In the *Reliquary*, vol. vii. (new series), p. 147, is an illustration of the subject of the Crucifixion, and it is stated that in 1892 it was still visible on the walls of this Church.

The north doorway (Fig. 51) of the nave is blocked up. It has plain chamfered arch and jambs, and probably is Early Decorated. The large four-light window adjoining it has clearly been cut down, parts of the quatrefoils above the lancet lights still remaining. The Decorated windows (Fig. 52) all have external hoodmoulds. The south Chancel doorway has a flat chamfered hoodmould and plain chamfered edge to arch and jambs. The south doorway (Fig. 53) is composed of much better stone than that used for the rest of the Church, and is a good specimen of late Norman work. It has a chamfered hoodmould and two recessed orders. On the outer is bold recessed and raised zigzag. This is supported on a chamfered abacus with the quarter round on the main face, and large detached shafts with scalloped capitals having bunch foliage at the angle of

that on west, and a head (Fig. 54) on the angle and an inverted trefoil on the inner west face of the eastern one. Plain inner order and jambs. On the jambs and shafts are a large number of votive crosses, especially good on the east side. On the outer east jamb is a rude sun dial. There is a much later sun dial with the gnomon remaining and part of a black letter inscription near the west end.

The Church is built of the local stone. The old Manor House remains close by to the west of the Church.

History of the Parish of Beenham.

By Mary Sharp.

(Continued from page 76.)

CHAPTER III.

It seems doubtful whether the Manor held by the Monks of Reading did or did not include the whole area of the parish ; such evidence as we have rather points to the contrary ; but whether this was the case or not, it is certain that after the Dissolution, besides many small freeholdings, two so-called Manors existed within its limits. That called the Manor and Farm of Beenham, as it is described "late the property of Reading Abbey," and its appurtenances, together with the Rectorial tithes, and (as we have seen) the advowson of the living, were granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Henry Norreys, afterwards Lord Norreys of Rycote.

The particulars of the Grant are specified as being "'parcel' (part) of the possessions of the late dissolved Monastery (of Reading) . . . and said Lordship lyeth VI. miles from the King's Man^r at Redyng."* The names of some of the woodlands are added,

* The distance is about eight miles.

—"Coteshill Grove, Shrubwood and Highgrove." Old local names are often lost, but Shrubwood occurs again in the Vicar's Tithe Accounts in 1810 in connection with what has, till quite lately been known as "Beenham Farm" to enable us to identify the site. The place is now known as "The Grange," but the wood overhanging it is still "Shrubwood."

Sir Henry Norreys was a noble and knightly gentleman whose father had, but a short time before, suffered death at the hands of the executioner rather than satisfy Henry VIII.'s jealousy by giving evidence to incriminate the Queen, Anne Boleyn. Some pangs of remorse, in those early days, may have visited the King's conscience ; at any rate he bestowed on the son of his victim, together with other Church properties, considerable lands and possessions in Berkshire. The same Henry Norreys came into great favour in the reign of Anne Boleyn's daughter, Queen Elizabeth. She sent him as her Ambassador to France, and eventually created him Lord Norreys of Rycote. The figures of himself and his wife Margery, daughter of Sir John Williams, of Burghfield, lie on a splendid monument in Westminster Abbey, surrounded by life-sized figures of their six sons, all of them distinguished in war or peace.

In 1589 the property of Beenham still belonged to Lord Norreys, for in that year widow Carter, the tenant, made a "Complente in Chancery against him, that whereas divers lands and parcel of the said Manor, for the time whereof the memorie of man is not to the Contrarie, were devisable by coppie of Court Rolle . . . for one, two, or three lives, according to the Custome of the Manor, one John Louche and Anne* his wife were in possession of two mesuages, called† Combes and Bottoms, for the life of the said Anne, whereof the said Lord Noreis for 100^s paid by William Carter . . . did grant unto the said William Carter deceased and unto the said Anne and John Carter, the compleynants, for their lives . . . The said Lord Norreis tried to defeat the Compleynants of their reversion . . . your Compleynants humbly pray that the said Lord Norreis may be called to answer the premises of the Bill of Compleynt." The complaint was apparently about some outlying cottages or farm^s which were then commonly let to tenants for several lives in succession. The Carters‡ continued their tenancy for

* John Louche married in 1565, at Beenham, Anne Combe, widow.

† Probably so called from a family named Combe resident in the parish till early in the 17th century.

‡ Ric^d. Carter, of Beenham, married at St. Laurence, Reading, 1655, Elizabeth Marcy, of Bradfield.

many years to come, so we may hope that the result of their appeal was satisfactory.

Lord Norreys died in 1601, and it seems probable that his Beenham estate had, during his lifetime, been conveyed to his younger son, Sir John Norreys, and that on the early death of the latter it passed to his daughter Elizabeth, who had married Thomas, Earl of Kelly. She died in 1622, and her husband then received a fresh grant by letters patent from James I. "of the Manor of Beenham late belonging to the Monastery of Reading, of the yearly value of £68 4^s 4½^d."

The Manor House* was described in evidence given in a court of law, in 1693, as an "antient" building where Manor Courts had been held; but it does not appear to have been at any time the residence of the lord of the Manor. It is always referred to as the Manor Farm in the occupation of the tenant.

From the beginning of the 17th century and onwards what has been ascertained of the story of this Manor, late the property of Reading Abbey, consists mainly of isolated and unconnected facts and dates.

In 1627 Sir Peter Vanlore is said to have held, at the time of his death, the manor and farm of Beenham, then in the occupation of Thomas Carter, together with the rectorial tithes and the advowson "late belonging to the Abbey of Redyng." In 1668-70 his son, also Sir Peter, speaks of his land in Beenham as "the farm or manor of Beenham." Sir Peter Vanlore, the elder, was a Dutch banker and money lender, and it was probably in that capacity that he had endeared himself to three successive English monarchs, as it is recorded on a magnificent tomb erected at Tilehurst.

In 1727† John Vanden Bempde, another foreign banker, who had acquired the manor and other lands in Beenham by his marriage with the daughter of Sir Peter Vanlore, by his Will settled them on his only daughter and heiress, Charlotte, dowager Marchioness of Annandale. She had married William Johnstone, Earl of Annandale, afterwards created first Marquis, a Scotchman who had held many titles and high offices. After his death she married, secondly, Colonel John Johnstone, also of the Annandale family, whose eldest son by her, eventually became the third Marquis. Her second son, Richard Vanden Bempde Johnstone, inherited her

* Excheq^r Dep^t. 8 Will^m III. East. No. 6, Berks.

† See "Notes and Queries," June 7th, 1913.

Beenham property, which in 1792 he sold to one John Blake. This episode is alluded to rather loosely in *Lysons' Magna Britannia*, where it is stated that previous to 1793 the manor of Beenham had been for a considerable time in the Marquis of Annandale's family.

In 1804 the Manor Farm with its appurtenances was divided among five owners, one of these being the Marquis of Downshire. About the year 1820 it was bought from them by Sir Charles Rich. In Sir Charles Rich's time the house was a substantial red brick building of a style common in English rural districts, picturesque in its way, with a steep red roof of the Georgian period. This has since been enlarged in the same style and is now known as The Grange.

The various transfers of the advowson have been recorded on page 15, vol. 20.

In 1729 the Rectorial Tithes were in the possession of one Francis Hawes, a *director* of the South Sea Company,* and in that year were purchased by Dr. John Girle, in whose family they remained till 1802, when they became the property of Sir Charles Rich and have remained in the possession of succeeding lords of the Manor to the present day.

* Who purchased and lived at Purley Hall till obliged to sell after the South Sea Bubble burst. Mr. Wilder said he was related to, but not the Director of the South Sea Co.—E. E. COPE.

The Potters' Art.

By E. E. Cope.

HAS it ever struck you what an enormous amount of pottery must have been imported into England during the two centuries Rome held sway here? Of course it stands to reason that the Romans brought over with them a certain quantity, for some of the pottery found could not have been produced in this country, even if the best potters of that age had come to England they had not the materials to hand such as they were accustomed to in their own country.

Of the Roman Potter as an individual we know practically nothing. This handiwork remains mostly in fragments, and we marvel at his skill. It is possible that the Romans found already existing in this country potteries in different localities and that they subsidised them, making their vessels after Roman fashion and shape, something of this sort is evident by the finding of coarse jars of similar shape to those seen at Pompeii and by the so called pseudo Samian, now pronounced to be copied from real Samian, but made locally in England. Certain sorts of pottery are named after certain Roman Cities from having been found there and believed to have been produced somewhere in the neighbourhood.

We have a coarse red pottery supposed to have been made anywhere and everywhere, likewise a coarse white as well as a grey or black, which was really smoked to make it that colour. A smooth grey sometimes of a delicate pearly tint is known as Upchurch ware or by its Roman name of Durobrevia. This I do not think is ever or seldom marked with a potter's stamp; some have raised figures on it in the style of the Samian decoration and shews skill and care in its ornamentation.

New Forest pottery may be older than Roman, it has sometimes a peculiar red purple shade due no doubt to some chemical in the clay. Kilns have been found but these were simple in structure and like modern brickfields were moved on elsewhere when the best of the clay bed was exhausted.

Samian ware was valuable, for the Romans were careful to mend it when broken, and real Samian bore the mark of its maker; it was supposed to have been made in Italy, Germany and Gaul, especially in the district of Auvergne, a valley of the Allier. Here potteries were established during the first three centuries of the Christian era. Samian pottery was not always brick red; it was sometimes chocolate and almost black incised ware is very scarce. One decorated in this way was found at Corinium now called Cirencester in Gloucestershire.

It is a pity some zealous antiquary has not collected into one volume all the potters' marks which are recorded in various descriptions of Roman discoveries, such as Charles Roach Smith's "Illustrations of Roman London," which was reprinted in "Chaffer's Guide to Pottery Marks." Another list was given, "A discourse on the site of the National Safe Deposit Company, Mansion House, London, 1873," by Puleston and Price, which gives about 60

different marks, and in many guide books of Roman places marks are noted.

Kilns, or the site of them, are known at the following places in England:—Castor, Colchester, Headington in Oxfordshire, Winterton, Wilderspool, London, Ashdown, York, Worcester and Marlborough. In 1896-7 two kilns were found at Hartshill, near Nuneaton, and another kiln site was explored at Crock Street in Somerset.

The uses of the various platters and jugs and utensils are not known. Different names have been given to the different shapes and uses ascribed, but it is not more than guess work in most instances, for we know so little of the habits or food of the Romano-British that we cannot tell much about their every-day life.

The rubbish pits shew that cattle and sheep were eaten, but after all the centuries there cannot remain much evidence of how they prepared their food nor how they served it. That in many ways the Romans in Britain differed from the Romans of Italy is certain. For one thing, the climate would make this necessary, for in this country the climate was not, nor is, suitable to an outdoor life, and these people, coming from the warmer climate of Italy, and even in some cases from the East, must and did suffer cruelly from the cold.

Besides the ordinary pottery and Samian ware, traces were found of a rudely glazed green ware which was made until the Middle Ages and may have been later than the actual period of the Roman occupation of Britain. A ware of this kind is also found among early Staffordshire potters, and tempts us to think that the manufacture of it may have been handed down by tradition to the 18th century, and this is not unlikely, for all manufactories are more or less worked from old traditional receipts, and the art of pottery making is older than the time of the Romans. Comparing the shapes and style of the pottery and china ware in every-day use in our own homes we cannot trace any vessel now in use resembling the Roman shapes; but if we were to place side by side vessels such as we see in the pictures of the 15th century, we realise how much these have altered in shape. Cups, even, are different from their original pattern of open handle-less little cups; the tumbler is an older vessel, but this was originally of horn, not of glass, and the shape is traceable to the horn, but with the base cut off to let the tumbler stand level on the table. Midway between the horn drinking vessel and the glass tumbler we notice that late specimens of the drinking horn were tumbler shape and had a piece of glass inserted

in the bottom. I can just remember some of this pattern being in use at Sulhamstead in the servants' hall in 1874. To this day there are in the old-fashioned English kitchens many bowls used to contain food. Milk is always kept in pannikins of a special pattern, jam is put into another sort of jar. We must also remember that we had no china ware of English make till the 18th century, and that even now china clay is not found everywhere, and that limits the making of china to certain districts or to such parts where it can be imported easily from other countries. When we think of this it makes us admire the wonderful resource of a nation who could not only conquer a wild country, but import thither their own manufactories both great and small.

Think of the thousands of miles which separate Italy from England, the difficulties of transport, where everything was carried on a pack horse or on men's backs. Think of the tiny ships impelled by oars, the difficulties of building enough of these small ships. It is all extraordinary when we stand on the site of some inland Roman settlement, unburied after the lapse of centuries, and there are the fragments of hundreds of pottery vessels either brought from abroad or made in the country. Whichever was the case, it is a marvellous record of industry and what can be done by energy and organization. All the same we feel that much of the so-called Roman pottery must have been made, and was made, in England. We are a conservative nation, and the shapes of pottery still in use are much like those of former generations. We know that Staffordshire was a great centre of pottery-making long before potters gave it a world-wide reputation. The Wedgwoods came from a remote Yorkshire parish. I have seen their names in the parish register there—Coxwold.

Perhaps some geologist will give a list of places where clay and china clay is found in our County, and if other readers will contribute any accounts of pottery, and especially any found in Berkshire, we, as a County, can soon discover if any was made hereabouts.



Sandhurst, Berks.

*By Capt. G. A. Kempthorne, Royal Army
Medical Corps.*

(Continued from page 61, Vol. 20.)

A considerable part of this diary was printed in the Berks Archæological Journal of January, 1912, wherein among other unpleasant adventures Nunn records how

“Blacks came in the night shot at me three times two bullets into my chamb^r window and agreed to pay y^m 5 gs. at Crowthorne y^e 30th inst.”

On this occasion valuable evidence was secured against the poachers. For while Nunn duly attended at the appointed place with the money, three of his agents concealed themselves near the house of the suspected leader and watched four persons, whom they were able to identify, enter the house, come out in disguise, and proceed to the rendezvous.

The Blacks were broken up, but the country was no less lawless at the end of the 18th century. It is hardly possible to open any of the earlier numbers of the “Reading Mercury” without finding an account of some highway robbery or burglary. Farms were constantly broken into at night, and inoffensive people clubbed on the head in the road. In 1787 Associations were being formed in the large parishes for apprehending and proceeding against burglars and robbers. Sandhurst, being a small village, joined with others in the hundreds of Charlton, Sonning and Wargrave to form an association, of which Mr. Edward Wise, a Wokingham solicitor, was treasurer.

Little mercy was shewn to persons convicted, but crime did not decrease. Every assize a dozen or more would be condemned to death and many more to transportation. The way public executions were conducted must have had a bad effect on the imagination of

the spectator. The criminal the central figure of the procession over the heath, the new suit of black, the crape covered cart, the draped staves of the escort, the crowd grateful for the show and therefore sympathetic, the last speech, and the so-called "edifying end"—one can well understand all these impressing many a poor ignorant rustic in a way never intended by the law.

The true heath dweller is now extinct in the parish, though here and there the features of a child suggest a strain of the gipsy race which was common enough thirty years ago. When Major Sawyer came to Hannicans Lodge about 1860 he found the broom makers of what is now St. Sebastian's still a most rough and primitive tribe. Few were married, their children were unbaptised, and some even exercised a kind of pagan worship.* Their custom was to form themselves into associations of twenty or thirty, despatching the product of their work weekly to Reading market or Bristol. On Sundays they took a holiday, and indulged in drinking bouts and boxing matches. In spite of their faults of birth and breeding, however, such good judges as Charles Kingsley and Miss Mitford found in them many fine qualities; and the earlier church workers found them most responsive to sympathetic treatment.

Of the later keepers of Sandhurst and Bigshot Walks we know some of the names. Their post was more or less a sinecure, and the salary amounted to no more than £25 a year, with an allowance of £50 for grass, beans and turnips for the deer. The ruinous condition of the house was the subject of frequent correspondence between the keeper and the Treasury. Sir Charles Howard was succeeded by his son Charles in 1614. His commission, dated July 9th, describes him as "Ranger of Finchampstead and of the Walks of Bigshot, Easthampstead and Blackwater, *alias* Sandhurst." The royal keeper was presumably turned out by the Commonwealth, and in 1649 a Frenchman named René Bailly, late sergeant-major in Fairfax's Regiment, took over charge. This was the year when the Levellers, under John Lillbourn, were active in the neighbourhood. The new keeper arrived to find all the palings pulled up, and seems to have spent a good deal of his own money in repairing

* "Notes on the early history of S. Sebastian's," by the Rev. Arthur Carr, 1902.

"This pagan worship consisted of peat erections which looked like altars with little bits of broken china on them; and the people used to say prayers to these bits of broken plates and jugs with figures on them. I have been down into these half subterranean heath dwellings many a time."—Extract from a letter of Mrs. Kennett-Were in the above.

them. He petitioned the King after the Restoration either to give him employment or a pass to his own country, "as his nationality prevented him setting up a trade, and he had suffered much loss by the riots in the Walk of Bigshot Rails which was in his custody."

Between 1716 and 1723, Col. Negus, referred to above, held the appointment, and in the former year he made an application to the Treasury to be allowed to cut and fell trees to repair the lodge. In 1730, on Mr. Whitworth's memorial, the walks were surveyed by a Mr. Wither, who reported the lodge ruinous owing to its "exposed position in the midst of a barren heath," the rails were down, and the common cattle were wandering about in the enclosure. He recommended establishing the underkeeper in Sandhurst Walk, "as very extensive and well situated for His Majesty's hunting and for maintaining a large herd of deer." As a result, a grant of £472 10s. was made for the repair of the house and £10 a year was devoted out of the wood sales to hire a cottage in Sandhurst. In 1742 Lord George Beauclerk was keeper. He afterwards succeeded his father, who was at that time Warden of the Forest, as third Duke of St. Albans. The second Duke had a house at Finchampstead at this period.

The last regularly-appointed keeper was Major-General Cox, whose tomb is near the south door of the church. He was equerry to the Duke of Gloucester, and, before his appointment, had had a distinguished military career. The General died in 1788, and his widow continued to live in the house till it became a ruin.

The last part of the eighteenth century was the age of inclosures. Bread was dear owing to the war, and there was every inducement, therefore, to bring fresh land into cultivation. In every parish the wastes on which the inhabitants had grazed their cattle or cut their turf in common were being divided up among them individually by act of parliament. To the Lord of the Manor went the largest share, and to the other freeholders the rest in proportion to the value of their tenements.

In the forest the whole question of land tenure was complicated by the rights claimed by the Crown. Certain grants of land had been made from time to time, but since the Conquest as much as five hundred acres had been inclosed at different periods by individuals who could show no legal claims to their property. In some villages the parish officers had taken on themselves, quite illegally, the authority to dispose of portions of the waste to individuals for sums varying from twelve to twenty-eight pounds an acre,

and the parish kept the money. Such tenants could, of course, prove no right whatever to their holdings.

Accordingly, commissioners were appointed in 1805 to go into the whole matter and inquire generally into the condition of the forest. Several reports were issued, from which it appears that things were in the greatest disorder. The right of common was everywhere much abused, the timber and the deer had been much neglected, and all kinds of people had assumed all kinds of rights, quite illegally, within its bounds. As an example, they gave the history of "browse-wood" and "rootage." It appears that the keepers used formerly to cut off the lops and tops of the trees and leave them on the ground for the deer to strip off the leaves and bark in the winter (browse-wood). When the deer had done with them the people were allowed to carry them away for firewood. The inhabitants might also, under certain conditions, and at stated periods, turn out their pigs into the woods to grub up acorns and beech masts (rootage). The report goes on to say that "by a most unwarrantable extension of the privilege of taking browse-wood, the inhabitants at large without any restriction have of late claimed the right, either in the case of a fall of timber by order of the proper officer of the forest, or in the case of a tree being blown down, to carry away the largest branches, leaving little more than the trunk. And by a most extraordinary perversion of the term 'rootage' they have claimed and carried away the roots of the trees."

The following particulars of Sandhurst parish are given in the report :—

		A.	R.	P.
Inclosed land belonging to the Crown ...		6	2	25
Encroachments on the forest since 1789		1	3	1
Open forest land—				
Heath and Common		3408	3	34
Wood		14	3	24
Water		0	3	20
Private enclosed property		1017	3	36
		—	—	—
Total acres ...		4451	0	20
Number of houses, 23.	Population, 222.			

During the previous eight years about eight acres had been illegally annexed from the waste in Sandhurst and Bigshot Walks by the simple process of digging a ditch and throwing up a bank, and this proceeding had been going on for many years.

The court sat on certain days in different parts of the forest, when all having claims were ordered to come forward and prove them. General Cox's son, who appeared before the commissioners as his mother's representative, stated that he had performed the duties of keeper of Bigshot Rails since his father's death. The under-keeper, John Smith, was also called, and stated that he had for some time been living among the ruins and drawing a salary of £20, which he paid to Mrs. Cox for the rent of the estate. He had not seen the keeper for the last three years. The commissioners reported the house as "in no way habitable," and recommended that it should be dismantled and sold, as it would only give encouragement in the winter to thieving. The house was purchased soon afterwards by Sir Watkin Wynn, who repaired and enlarged it. About 1860 it came into the hands of Major Sawyer, and later of Charles Smith, Esq. It is still the residence of Mrs. Charles Smith.

Besides the claim of Mr. Richard Heavyside to the title and rights of Lord of the Manor, the tenants, represented by John Rackstraw and James Giblett, claimed common of pasture and turbary over all the open parts of the forest within the parish. The opinion was given of these rights generally, that the former was much abused and needed restriction, while the latter was founded on no legal right at all, though it had long been enjoyed, and from motives of humanity could not well be disturbed.

The result of the commissioners' report was the Windsor Forest Inclosure Act of 1813, by which the forest laws ceased to exist, the Crown reserving a certain proportion of the land, while the remainder was distributed in allotments among the various landowners. The award for Sandhurst was issued in 1817, and is now in the custody of the parish clerk.

The largest proprietor at this time was Mr. John Moseley. His estate, which had been in his family since about 1767, comprised about 211 acres at the west end of the parish, besides the glebe of 14½ acres which he had on lease from the Dean of Salisbury. The houses on the property were Ambarrow Farm, Groves' Farm, and an old house adjoining the north-west of the churchyard, since demolished. Whiting's Farm had been burned down in 1803, and was never re-built. His tenants for many years had been members of the Giles family. The Rev. Charles Norris' estate consisted of 166 acres, and included Breech Farm, the house now called Rivermede, and the cottages and buildings opposite, which are now the

the property of the rector. His land lay chiefly between the village street and the river.

Mr. Heavyside's demesne appears to have been represented by two acres of land round Sandhurst Lodge. He was now allotted 14 acres adjoining, $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres at Ambarrow Hill, and a large tract of 352 acres at Hurt's Hill and Broadmoor Bottom "as a compensation and satisfaction to the rights and interests of the said Richard Heavyside in and to the soil of the wastes of the said manor." Others who benefitted were Mr. Blackall Simonds, who held at the time 91 acres, including what is now called College Farm ; Mr. Charles Simonds, Cave's Farm ; Mr. William Simonds, Sandhurst Farm ; the Royal Military College ; J. Martin, J. Sevier, J. Rackstraw, W. Berry, Elizabeth Barnard, J. Bourne, C. Eeles, A. Draper, James and John Giblett, Mary Giles, J. Horn, J. Hart, J. Justice, M. Justice, J. Kimber, W. Parfet, W. Taylor, Mary and Moses Watts, Robert Watts, and Miss Wise, Mr. Carwithen and his successors, as curate-in-charge, also received an allotment, and the inappropriate glebe was augmented. The poor of Yateley and Sandhurst, under the provisions of Bannister's Charity, possessed nine acres and a-half in the parish. They were now allotted three further pieces of land. Gravel pits were handed over to the Surveyors of the parish highways near Snaprails and on Ambarrow and Scotland Hills. A portion of the present R.M.C. grounds was reserved for the Crown, and land to the value of over £1,300 was sold to various persons to defray the cost of the survey.

(To be continued.)





The Churchwardens' Accounts of the Parish of St. Mary, Thame.

Commencing in the year 1469.

Transcribed by W. Patterson Ellis.

(Continued from page 86, Vol. 19).

It ^m for lathis cc & i quart ^r to y ^e same work	vi ^s
It payde Will ^m Smyth for henges hokes & ij barres of iron	xx ^d ob
Total xxiiij ^s ij ^d ob & thus for the part of Newe Thame xii ^s i ^d q	
It ^m payd for wexe & makyng y ^e ij ^d yere of this accompte Cristmas	iiij ^s xi ^d
It payde for i pese of tymber vor a brase for y ^e chirch style	i ^d
It payd for whytledder for y ^e bawdrikes	ij ^d
It payd for wexe & makyng y ^e iiij ^d yere of this accompte Ester	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It payd W ^m Wodebrigge for mendyng y ^e bawdrikes ...	iiij ^d
It payd y ^e same W ^m for mendyng y ^e Judas bell ...	i ^d
It payd for Whitledyr another tyme	ij ^d
It payd y ^e s ^d Will ^m for ronging y ^e Chirche ladir ...	iiij ^d ob
It payd Agnes Sage for wasshyng sorplesis	iiij ^d
It payde John Smyth for mendyng i shoulder of y ^e organs	i ^d
It payde John Chapman for wexe and making at Cristmas w ^t certayn candels called sisez for a whole yere	iiij ^s v ^d ob
It for lampe oyle	ij ^d
It for expensys of John Benet & his fellowes at y ^e chapter at Tettesworth	iiij ^s

The gret Belle.

It payd John Bates for tymber to y ^e frame worke of y ^e gret bell	ij ^a
It payd for carriage of tymber to y ^e sawpit and then to y ^e chyrche... ..	iiij ^d
It payd Tho Golder carpenter for making y ^e said worke... ..	viii ^a iiij ^d
It payd for latthis & lathnayle for y ^e latees next y ^e sans bell	iiij ^d ob
It payd Fulcom Smyth for makyng a clapur to y ^e gret belle	iiij ^a
It payd Agnes for washyng surplyces & vestiments at diverse tymes	x ^d
It payd John Smyth and others for wyrke aboute y ^e clokk	xii ^d
It payd W. Wodebridge for mendyng ye Bawdrykes	iiij ^d
It for mendinge y ^e p'she surplyse	iiij ^d
It for mendynge y ^e gret Antiphone in le pecynges ...	xii ^d
It payd for a locke & nayles to y ^e cheste in y ^e vestrye	ij ^d
It payde for mendynge y ^e sacryng bell	i ^d
It ^m paide for c nayles to y ^e solar in y ^e chapel of y ^e Trinite	v ^d ob
It payde for parchment for y ^e register	ob
It ^m payde for mendynge y ^e Kanape	ob
It ^m payde for a poste of oke for Crendon style ...	iiij ^d
It payde for worke about y ^e poleys in y ^e myddle of y ^e chirche	ij ^d
It ^m payde for a c and a halfe bushel nayle for y ^e iiij belwhele	iiij ^d
It ^m payde for bushel nayle to Solar of Organs ...	ob
It payde for a lyne to ye Kanape	ob
It ^m for sise candel	i ^d ob q ^r
It ^m payde for a surplyse	ix ^d
It ^m payde for mendynge y ^e Sunday vestments ...	i ^d
It payde for iij burdens for iij bookes	i ^d ob
It ^m payde for mendynge y ^e Rayies Vestiments ...	i ^d
It ^m payde ye paynter of Buckyngham for a picture of y ^e blessed Marie in y ^e choire	xx ^a
It ^m payde for mendynge ij vestiments & a suite cald y ^e mones	iiij ^d
It ^m payde for iiij li sise candell & a halfe at relick Sunday	x ^d ob

It ^m payde for strawe for y ^e chirche to Thom ^s Adam at	
iii tymes	ij ^d
It ^m for wrytyng these accomptes	viii ^d
Sm xxvi ^s ix ^d ob	
Sm total x ^{li} vi ^s vi ^d ob	

The s^d proctours have in surplus ij^s iij^d and the said John Benet lays down his office and in his place is elected John Carthorp w^t y^e said John Chapman Sen^r and John Chapman Jun^r & T. Powlyn have in hande lix lb of wexe belongyng to y^e sepulcre light & y^e same John and T. Powlyn remayne wardens of y^e s^d lyght.

The Accomptes of John Chapman Sen^r & John Carthorpe Wardens of y^e prebendal Chirche of Thame for y^e Newe Town begynnyng ye first Sonday in Lent A.D. MCCCCLXXXI to Trinite Sonday MCCCCLXXXII that is to say for one whol yere & beyond.

RECEPTS.

In p ^m is rec ^d at Ester for ye Paschal & Trendyll tapurs oure parte	ix ^s vii ^d
It ^m rec ^d of Randolf for rente of his howse for Lady Day quarter A ^o E iiiii. xxi	xx ^d
It rec ^d of Thom Barbor for rent of John Triplad's howse s ^d quarter	xii ^d
It ^m rec ^d of Henry Pede of Glynton for ye testimente of Thom ^s Smyth	xx ^d
It gathered at Wytsonyde from y ^e p ^s he	xv ^s viii ^d
It ^m rec of Randolf for rent at Michelmase	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It ^m rec ^d of John Bates y ^e hockemoney	
It ^m rec ^d of Geffery Dormer an olde debte for strawyng ye chirche	ij ^s vi ^d
It ^m rec ^d of John Jamys of the testements of Isabella Raynold	viii
It ^m rec ^d at Crismas to y ^a rode lyght	vi ^s
It ^m rec ^d of Agnes Water for y ^e berial of her busbond John	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It ^m rec ^d of y ^e testemente of John Smyth of Rycott	v ^d
It ^m rec ^d of y ^e testimente of Will ^m David of Weston	v ^d
It ^m rec ^d of Randolf a halfe yeres rente of his howse at Lady Day	iiij ^s iiij ^d

It ^m rec ^d of Thomas Tyler one yeres rent of his howse at Lady Day	ij ^s
It rec ^d of y ^e p'she at Ester to ye Ester & Trendell Tapurs y ^e ij ^{de} yere of these accomptes	ix ^s ij ^d ob
Sm tot ^l rec ^d iij ^l ij ^s i ^d ob	
It ^m The Proctoures paid for wexe & makynge at Ester y ^e i st yere	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It ^m payd for mendyng y ^e gret belwhele	ij ^s
It ^m payd for mendynge y ^e iiij th belwhele	ij ^d
It ^m payde John Chapman for mendynge iiij surplsys	x ^d
It ^m payde Agnes Sage for wasshyng y ^e s ^d surplsys	iiij ^d
It ^m payde John Hewlett Aparitor his fees	iiij ^d
It ^m payde John Carthorpe for i torche	vii ^s vi ^d
It ^m payd for Wytledir to mende y ^e bawdrykys	iiij ^d
It ^m payde for lampe oyle	iiij ^d
It ^m payde for wasshyng diverse chirche clothes	ij ^d ob
It ^m payde for Nayles & for mendynge vestmentys & for a locke to y ^e chirche yate	vii ^d ob
It ^m payde John Hewlett Aparitor his fees	iiij ^d
It ^m payde John Payntor for lyvarages at Wytsonside	iiij ^d
It ^m payd for the book of Jacob and his 12 sons at Wytsonside	xvi ^d
It payd for wexe & makynge at Crystmas	iiij ^s ix ^d
It payd x'poser Bryggeman for keyping ye klok	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It payd ye glassyer for mendyng ye wyndowes in St. John's Ile	ix ^d
It payd Mayster Thom ^s York a Monk for byndyng of one gradual	ij ^s
It payd for mendyng vii bawdrykes	iiij ^d
It payd for washing vestiments & other clothes ij ^d yere of these Acc ^{ts}	iiij ^d ob
It payd for makynge y ^e trendyll & Ester tapurs y ^e same yere	
It payd for cariage of ij bushel barley from Rycott to Thame & for writing these accomptes	ij ^d
It payd for wasshyng diverse clothes at Wytsontyd ij yere of these aco'ptes	iiij ^d ob
Sm xxxiii ^s v ^d	

And ther remaynes in oure hondes xxix^s viii^d & the sayd John Calthorp is releved of his office & in his stede is elected Nicolas Deryvale w^t the foresayd John Chapman Sen^r.

The Accomptes of John Chapman Sen^r & Nicolas Deryvall proctours of ye chyrche of Thame for the part of the New Towne begynnyng at Trinite tyde A^o Dⁱ MCCCCLXXXII.

RECEPTS.

In p ^m is rec ^p from y ^e last accompte	...	...	xxix ^s viii ^d ob
It rec of Marget Randolf for rent of her howse at			
Michelmas	...	...	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It collected at ye play cald Synt George	...	...	xiii ^s vi ^d
It rec ^d to ye rode lyght at Crysmas for owre parte	...	...	vi ^s iiij ^d
It rec ^d for the Ester & trendyl lyghtes	...	...	vii ^s i ^d
Sm total iiij ^{li}			

(*To be continued.*)

Great Fawley, Berkshire.

THE OLD CHURCH was the burial place of the ancient family of Moore, who held both Manors here from some time after the Reformation, until 1765. To this family belonged Sir Francis Moore, a distinguished lawyer who represented Reading in the Parliaments of 1597, 1601 and 1613; he died on the 20th November, 1621, and was buried in Old Fawley Church. On the removal of which, the vault of the Moore's was opened and their remains bound round with bands of leather were found to have been embalmed and in perfect preservation even to the features; no doubt this worthy family thought, at least those who laid them here, that the old church would "have canopied their bones till Doomsday." But, alas, time has changed, and now their tombs are exposed to rough winds and rains, and the inscriptions on them are becoming every year more illegible. The burial ground, shut in with brick walls and iron gates, was the site of the old church, in which are many gravestones and two or three massive tombs, but not the slightest vestige of the ancient church.

On a flat stone richly carved with arms and death's head and cross-bones is this inscription:—

"Here lieth ye body of Mary Beverley wife of William Beverley of Chanco* in ye county of Bedford, Esqre., after whose decease she lived in her widowhood 57 years, and died ye 14th day of April, 1658, aged 80 years."

In pious memory of whome
 Dame Elizabeth More
 of Soothfally,
 In Barkshire, widdowe
 and daughter of ye said Mary,
 Hath placed this. [Mentioned in Ashmole.]

Next to this on another flat stone, engraved with arms and skull and cross-bones. we read :—

Here resteth in hope of a joyful
 Resurrection the body of William
 Hitchcock of Uxbridge in the countie of
 Middlesex, Father to Dame Mary, wife
 of Henry Moore of South Fawley.

Baronett.

He lived to the age of LXXXI.
 He was always faithful to God
 His King and Countrie
 Dy'd loved and lamented
 on ye 22nd of September
 Anno Domini MDCLXXI.
 Requiescat in pace.

Another large tomb painted black and white, containing the mortal remains of John and Deborah Pocock, both of whom died in the 18th century. On the stone that marks the resting-place of their daughter Mary, who died at 10 years in 1751, is engraved :—

"My parents dear pray don't lament,
 "Because so soon I from you went ;
 "I hope in Heaven I shall you see,
 "Therefore prepare to follow me."

Turning to the right of the old church-yard you soon come upon the newly constructed and handsomely built church St. Mary. It was erected in 1866, when the old church was pulled down, and was the munificent gift of Philip Wroughton, Esqre., of Woolley Park, from the design of the late G. E. Street, R.A. The Chancel is of an apsidal form, the roof groined with Devonshire marble pillars supporting it, the reredos is of Caen stone. The Register dates from 1540.—R. C. PRICE.

* Perhaps Cainhoe, according to Lysons.



Notes and Queries

RELATING TO BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON.

Communications are invited upon all subjects of Antiquarian or Architectural interest relating to the three counties. Correspondents are requested to write as plainly as possible, on one side of the paper only, with REPLIES, QUERIES and NOTES on SEPARATE SHEETS, and the name of the writer appended to each communication.

THE Editors express the earnest hope that a larger number of Correspondents will avail themselves of these pages, and thus help those responsible for the publication of this Journal to extend its usefulness. There are several Queries—inserted in the Journals for 1913—still remaining unanswered. It is hoped that some readers may solve them.

Notes.

BERKSHIRE MEMORIAL IN KENT.—In the Church of St. Martin, Cheriton, Kent, there is "a monument to the memory of Laura Louisa Wainewright, only daughter of Arnold and Louisa Wainewright, late of Calcot Lodge, Berks, who died at Sandgate, 30 Sep. 1828, aged 19. She died on the eve of her intended marriage with a young French Count. A group, consisting of two figures beautifully chiselled in white marble, represent the afflicted mother bending over, and the inconsolable lover prostrate before a tomb." Stock's Handbook of Folkestone, p. 188. Burial by the Rev. J. D. Glennie, of Sandgate. "Laura Louisa Wainewright of Sandgate 8 October 1828, aged 19" (Cheriton Par. Reg.).

There were some lines in French, some of which have been purposely obliterated, including the name of the Count; his name, however, has been handed down as Adolphe de Trobiaud of Morlaix in Brittany.

There is a family vault wherein are interred the remains of Arnold Wainwright, Esq., of Grafton Manor, in the county of Oxford, and of Devonshire Place, London, who died the ninth day of December, 1854, in the 87th year of his age. Whose admirable qualities of heart and mind, and whose rich fund of intellectual acquirements from whose literary pursuits that formed the great enjoyment of his life were best known to that afflicted widow who mourns his loss and erects this monument to his memory.

WARGRAVE.—The marriage of the "Berkshire Lady" is recorded in the parish register of this Church: "1706 March 28. Benjamin Child, gent. of Reading, and Frances Kenrick of ye same."—**RICH. JOHN FYNMORE**, Sandgate, Kent.

BLEWBURY.—The late William H. Richardson, M.A., F.S.A., in his book "Notes on Blewbury," mentions the Quakers' Meeting House, but was evidently unaware of the tradition that there had been also a Roman Catholic

Chapel in the house known as Boham's Farm. Mr. William Saunders, of Blewbury, who was born in this house, told me he well remembered being told about the chapel by John Palmer, a very old inhabitant of the village, employed by my father. The tradition is borne out by the fact that my mother, née Mary Elizabeth Boham, told me that when lying in bed as a child, and looking intently at the walls, she could see outlines of paintings under the whitewash. The large room below had also unusual features. The ceiling was (and is) remarkably low, and within my memory there was a door opening into the little courtyard in the front of the house, and in the doorway was built up a very high sill, over which one had to step on entering. This door is now built up, and the doorway forms a recess in the room. Also there was (now done away) a ledge about 8 inches wide and 18 inches or 2 feet high, built out from the east wall of the room (I give details from a childish memory), and above this ledge had apparently been a wide niche in the wall, now closed in by panelled doors and converted into cupboards. A door by the side of the fireplace in the west wall opens into a brewhouse or outer kitchen, with larder attached, over which part of the house (which abuts on the street called Westbrook) is a lift, formerly used as a granary. The room at the other end of the house, looking out to the garden, and the short wing which joins it at right angles, had probably been built, or perhaps re-built, at a much later date, having a comparatively modern appearance. The old chapel, evidently originally open to the roof, must have converted into living room and bedroom by putting in a floor. Mr. Saunders said he could remember the outer door, but not the ledge against the wall, which he thought must have been removed in the course of some repairs which he had understood were carried out some years before his remembrance.

An ancient barn which forms one side of the courtyard, but has been transformed into an artist's studio, has on one of the posts the initials and date, T.B. 1699, believed to stand for Thomas Boham, the first of the Boham family at the farm, which they continued to occupy till 1843, when the last male representative died. They seem to have been a very old family, and were settled at Moreton, near Wallingford, before coming to Blewbury. An ancient Bible, with the date 1633 on the fly-leaf of the New Testament, and the Sternhold-Hopkins version of the Psalms, has come down to me from my grandmother, the last of the name.

Rinns, believed to be a contraction of St. Birinus, is the name of an orchard in the village situated on the south side of the church path, opposite an ancient farmhouse, to which it belongs. This path, now called Watt's Lane, is said to have formerly crossed this orchard instead of skirting it as it does now. By whom or when it was diverted I do not know, probably by the proprietor of the farm called Watt's Farm, with the farmhouse and adjoining orchard, who was known as Farmer Watt. His widow was still living about 78 years ago, but they had no family, and the name died with her. There may still be an old inhabitant or two who can remember the old lady, who was a character in her way, and seems to have commanded great respect.—M. L. STEVENSON.

TAYNTON, OXFORDSHIRE.—I note that in the Antiquary's Book on fonts, that the font of the pretty little church of St. John the Evangelist, Taynton, is described as Perpendicular. It is, however, a 19th century copy of an ancient predecessor. One of the Messrs. Pittaway, Quarrymen and Stone-carvers, of Taynton, told my parents that they had made the new font, copying the old one as nearly as they could. As my father went to reside in the village in 1846, and the font was then evidently new work, it was probably executed about 1840.

Mr. Pittaway gave no date but the Churchwardens' books would of course shew it. The Pittaway family had rented and worked the Quarries for a very long time, and I was sorry to learn from one of them (now the village Postmaster) when I visited the village three or four years ago, that they had been closed down for twenty years or more. We left the neighbourhood in 1875.

The church is ancient but has a modern porch, unhappily unlike the old one and not in keeping with the rest of the building. It was built in the early sixties, when the singers' gallery was taken down, the tower arch thrown open, and a harmonium installed under it with seats for the choir. The old high pews were taken away and oak benches put in, a space being left on the east side of the entrance doorway for the font (which had previously stood just within the chancel arch) about the same time. The chancel, a step up from the nave, was taken down and carefully re-built on the old lines (the walls having been pronounced unsafe) in 1865. There is some ball-flower ornament round the capital of one (it may be two) of the pillars, which are heavily moulded, but vary somewhat in design, and a carved stone head, supposed to represent St. John, at the intersection of the arches over the western pillar of the north arcade. The nave and side aisles form almost, if not quite, a square, and there are cross and central aisles,* Only one entrance save the vestry, a north door with porch. The south door has been built up time out of mind, though the outside arch (there were no traces of a porch) is still intact, and surrounded by a handsome border of cruciform flowers, springing from the hollow of a heavy double moulding. Inside there is nothing to shew a doorway, only a flat space of plastered wall, above which is a window corresponding with the upper light of the fine transomed window in the eastern end of the south wall. There are arched, deeply splayed windows at both ends of the north and south aisles, one in the north wall and one on the north side of the chancel, no stained glass except narrow borderings of modern glass put in when the church was restored. The east window had nothing very remarkable about it, containing three lancets, and there were no monuments save five or six mural tablets. There is a fine niche built out from the north-east angle of the north aisle, also, I think, bordered with ball-flower work, and a squint in the south side of the chancel wall. The reading-desk of old times has been removed and a lectern substituted. It was a replica of the carved pulpit, only lower, and stood on the north side of the central aisle, the pulpit being on the south side. The outer belfry door on the north side of the tower was built up in the sixties, but another has since been opened on the south side. Two small stone coffins were found in carrying out the alterations. I never heard what became of the old font, probably it was broken up. Since I was familiar with the church, a combined vestry and organ chamber has been built over the site of the old vestry, and choir seats installed in the chancel. The steps up to the rood-loft were discovered and opened up in the course of the various alterations and repairs.—M. L. STEVENSON.

Queries.

ADEE.—Nathaniel Jenner, of Widhill, co. Wilts, married in Feb., 1707/8, by Licence, Catherine Adee. Was she a daughter of the Vicar of Rodbourne Cheney referred to at page 29, No. 1, vol. xx., B.B. and O. Journal?

* I should have added that the roof of the north aisle is heavily battlemented, the south aisle having only a narrow edging of flat stone work.

Nathaniel Jenner, of Widhill, Wilts, whose will, of 16th August, 1761), proved 14th April, 1764, bequeathed Widhill to Edward Pleydell, Esq., and Richard Kennier, surgeon, in trust for his kinsman, Edye Baldwin, of Slough, innholder. Widhill was sold to Sir Mark Stuart Pleydell, Bart., for £18,600. Wanted particulars of Adye Baldwin and his exact relationship to Jenner. Nathaniel Jenner, the elder, married (1708) Catherine Adey; in 1711 Robert Baldwin, of London, married Elizabeth Jenner, widow, of Southwark. There were, I believe, some Jenners living either at Windsor or Eton.—R. J. FYNMORE, Sandgate.

Wanted references to the Manfield family of Berks, Bucks and Oxfordshire. A branch of the family settled at Wargrave in the 16th century. There was also a branch at Reading.—W. BAILWARD.

Where was Robert Ravenscroft baptised? Reward given for correct information.—RAVENS-CROFT, "Briantcroft," Milford-on-Sea, Hants.

Replies.

CLOCKMAKERS OF BERKSHIRE.—I have an old Grandfather clock on which is the name Thomas West, Reading. This clock has an ornamental brass (partly silvered) dial plate embossed in the corners, and is drawn up with a chain, going only about 30 hours. The case is oak, tall, and well proportioned, with a border of fretwork backed on the woodwork above the dial plate. It has been in my possession about 50 years; it does not appear to be dated. A cousin of mine has a "Grandfather" with the name William Wise, Wantage. On the dial plate, under the figures, is a small picture, worked in the metal, apparently representing a moonlight scene. I believe the case is lacquered. I do not know if it is dated, or whether it is an eight-day clock or not, and possibly the case is only dark mahogany, in which case I believe it would not be so old as a lacquered case would show it to be.

Maurice Caudwell, of Ashbrook, Blewbury, has an old family clock made by an ancestor, Edward Caudwell. I believe the case is lacquered, but I conclude in bad repair, as my cousin, the Rev. W. E. L. Caudwell, the late Rector of Crookes Easton,* Hants, amused himself in his leisure by covering it with fine fretwork in some fine light wood, with the family coat of arms and crest in the centre of the lid. The effect is, I think, unique.

Another old family clock now in the possession of my son, Mr. W. B. Stevenson, of Farley Hill, Swallowfield, has a dome top with a raised silver plate above the figures, on which is the name of Edward Hemins, Bissiter. This is a repeater, winding with a key, and going eight days. It belonged to my grandfather, William Boham, of Blewbury, nearly a hundred years ago, and the present case is Spanish mahogany, which he had made to supply the place of the original one, described to me as painted, probably lacquered. This clock was called an old one in my grandfather's time; he died in 1828.—MARY STEVENSON.

* Now usually spelt Crux Easton.

FOR SALE.—Phillimore's Marriage Registers of Buckinghamshire, 8 vols. ;
also Stewkley Register, 1545—1653.—A. V. WOODMAN, "Crafton,"
Boscombe, Hants.

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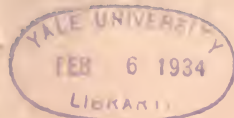
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